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("PTO") under Application Serial No. 78/928,052 for the mark APEX COMPANIES, which I downloaded from the PTO website on or about August 19, 2008.

- 3. Attached hereto as Exhibit B is a true and correct copy of an affidavit filed by Apex Stores, LLC with its trademark application with the PTO under Registration No. 3,244,685 for the mark APEX COMPANIES, which I downloaded from the PTO website on or about August 19, 2008.
- 4. Attached hereto as Exhibit C is a true and correct copy of an affidavit filed by Apex Stores, LLC with its trademark application with the PTO under Application Serial No. 78/928,022 for the mark APEX COMPANIES, which I downloaded from the PTO website on or about August 19, 2008.
- 5. Attached hereto as Exhibit D is a true and correct copy of an affidavit filed by Apex Stores, LLC with its trademark application with the PTO under Registration No. 3,356,317 for the mark APEX COMPANIES, which I downloaded from the PTO website on or about August 19, 2008.
- 6. Attached hereto as Exhibit E is a true and correct copy of Apex Stores, LLC's Lanham Act Section 8 and 15 Affidavit filed with the PTO under Registration No. 2,562,812 for the mark APEX ONLINE, which I downloaded from the PTO website on or about August 19, 2008.
- 7. Attached hereto as Exhibit F is a true and correct copy of Apex Stores, LLC's Lanham Act Section 8 and 15 Affidavit filed with the PTO under Registration No. 2,443,933 for the mark APEX STORES, which I downloaded from the PTO website on or about August 19, 2008.
- 8. Attached hereto as Exhibit G is a true and correct copy of Apex Stores, LLC's Lanham Act Section 8 and Affidavit filed with the PTO under Registration No. 1,847,961 for the mark APEX, which I downloaded from the PTO website on or about August 19, 2008.
- 9. Attached hereto as Exhibit H is a true and correct copy Apex Stores, LLC's Lanham Act Section 8 and 15 Affidavit filed with the PTO under Registration No. 2,155,905 for the mark APEX, which I downloaded from the PTO website on or about August 19, 2008.

- 10. Attached hereto as Exhibit I are true and correct copies of the Whois domain name registration records from CSC Corporate Domains for the domain names <apexstores.com> and <apexathome.com>, which I downloaded from website at http://www.incspot.com on or about June 26, 2008.
- 11. Attached hereto as Exhibit J is a true and correct copy of the Whois domain name registration record from CSC Corporate Domains for the domain name <apexhealthandfitness.com>, which I downloaded from the website at http://www.incspot.com on or about July 17, 2008.
- 12. Attached hereto as Exhibit K is a true and correct copy of a webpage accessed when I typed the Internet domain addresses <apexathome.com> and <apexstores.com> into my Internet browser on or about August 19, 2008.
- 13. Attached hereto as Exhibit L are true and correct copies of printouts I downloaded from the online records of the Rhode Island Office of Secretary of State regarding Apex Stores, LLC, Apex at Home, LLC and Apex, LLC at the website http://ucc.state.ri.us on or about May 14, 2008.
- 14. Attached hereto as Exhibit M is a true and correct copy of a printout I downloaded from the online records of the Rhode Island Office of Secretary of State regarding Zelby Holdings, Inc. at the website http://ucc.state.ri.us on or about June 25, 2008.
- 15. Attached hereto as Exhibit N is a true and correct copy of the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board's ("TTAB") Order dated August 7, 2008 to Suspend Apex Stores, LLC and Apex, LLC v. 24 Hour Fitness USA, Inc., Cancellation No. 92048378, pending a civil action between the parties.
- 16. Attached hereto as Exhibit O is a true and correct copy of a printout I obtain on August 19, 2008 from the online records of the TTAB Inquiry System reflecting opposition or cancellation proceedings filed by Apex Stores, LLC from November 1, 2007 through August 19, 2008.
- 17. Attached hereto as Exhibit P is a true and correct copy of a printout I obtained on August 19, 2008 from the online records of the TTAB Inquiry System reflecting opposition or

90027468.1

	Case 4:08-cv-01681-SBA Document 28 Filed 08/21/2008 Page 4 of 4
1	cancellation proceedings filed by Apex, LLC involving "APEX" trademarks from November 1,
2	2007 to August 19, 2008.
3	18. Attached hereto as Exhibit Q is a true and correct copy of the Report and
4	Recommendation issued by Magistrate Judge David L. Martin of the United States District Court
5	for the District of Rhode Island in Apex, LLC and Apex Stores, LLC v. 24 Hour Fitness USA,
6	Inc., Case No. CA 08-169 ML, on August 15, 2008.
7	I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the
8	foregoing is true and correct and that this Declaration was executed on August 21, 2008 at San
9	Francisco, California.
10	
11	<u>/s/Britt L. Anderson</u> Britt L. Anderson
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6 &c	90027468.1 4 DECLARATION OF BRITT L. ANDERSON

EXHIBIT A

Document	Descri	ption:	Appl	ication
Mail / (	Create	Date:	12-Ju	1-2006

Previous Page

Next Page

You are currently on page 1

of 3

9

PTO Form 1478 (Rev 6/2005)
OMB No. 0651-0009 (Exp xx/xx/xxxx)

# Trademark/Service Mark Application, Principal Register

Serial Number: 78928052 Filing Date: 07/12/2006

### The table below presents the data as entered.

Input Field	Entered
MARK SECTION	
MARK	APEX COMPANIES
STANDARD CHARACTERS	YES
USPTO-GENERATED IMAGE	YES
LITERAL ELEMENT	APEX COMPANIES
MARK STATEMENT	The mark consists of standard characters, without claim to any particular font, style, size, or color.
OWNER SECTION	
NAME	Apex Stores, LLC
STREET	100 Main Street
CITY	Pawtucket
STATE	Rhode Island
ZIP/POSTAL CODE	02860
COUNTRY	United States
AUTHORIZED EMAIL COMMUNICATION	No
LEGAL ENTITY SECTION	
ТҮРЕ	LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
STATE/COUNTRY UNDER WHICH ORGANIZED	Rhode Island
GOODS AND/OR SERVICES SECTION	
INTERNATIONAL CLASS	036

DESCRIPTION	shopping mall services and leasing of shopping mall space; real estate investment; real estate management; real estate development; financial services in the field of investments and financing
FILING BASIS	Section 1(a)
FIRST USE ANYWHERE DATE	At least as early as 09/01/2002
FIRST USE IN COMMERCE DATE	At least as early as 09/01/2002
SPECIMEN FILE NAME(S)	\\TICRS\EXPORT4\IMAGEOUT4 \789\280 \78928052\xml1\AP P0003.JPG
SPECIMEN DESCRIPTION	promotional web page describing the services and bearing the mark
ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS SECTION	ON
PRIOR REGISTRATION(S)	Applicant claims ownership of U.S. Registration Number(s) 2443933 and 2918976.
SIGNATURE SECTION	
SIGNATURE	/John E. Ottaviani/
SIGNATORY NAME	John E. Ottaviani
SIGNATORY DATE	07/12/2006
SIGNATORY POSITION	Attorney for Applicant
PAYMENT SECTION	
NUMBER OF CLASSES	1
NUMBER OF CLASSES PAID	1
SUBTOTAL AMOUNT	325
TOTAL AMOUNT	325
PAYMENT METHOD	CC
ATTORNEY	
NAME	John E. Ottaviani
FIRM NAME	Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP
STREET	P.O. Box 55874
CITY	Boston
STATE	Massachusetts
ZIP/POSTAL CODE	02205
COUNTRY	United States
PHONE	401-274-9200
	-

EMAIL	trademark@eapdlaw.com
AUTHORIZED EMAIL COMMUNICATION	Yes
ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER	42707/65893-2
OTHER APPOINTED ATTORNEY(S)	David G. Conlin; George W. Neuner; Linda M. Buckley; Peter F. Corless; Peter J. Manus; Lisa Swiszcz Hazzard; Christine C. O'Day; Kathleen B. Carr; Steven M. Jensen; Peter J. Manso; John B. Alexander; Kathryn A. Piffat; William J. Daley, Jr.; David A. Tucker; John J. Penny, Jr.; Howard M. Gitten; Gregory B. Butler; Barry Kramer; Scott F. Wofsy; George N. Chaclas, David J. Silvia; Stephana E. Patton; Jeffrey D. Hsi; Margaret J. McLaren; Mark Russett; Amy Leahy; Robert J. Tosti; Brian M. Gaff; Carrie Webb-Olson; Kathryn Grant Belleau; F. Andrew Anderson and Patrick J. Concannon
CORRESPONDENCE SECTION	
NAME	John E. Ottaviani
FIRM NAME	Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP
STREET	P.O. Box 55874
CITY	Boston
STATE	Massachusetts
ZIP/POSTAL CODE	02205
COUNTRY	United States
PHONE	401-274-9200
EMAIL	trademark@eapdlaw.com
AUTHORIZED EMAIL COMMUNICATION	Yes
FILING INFORMATION	
SUBMIT DATE	Wed Jul 12 16:36:46 EDT 2006
TEAS STAMP	USPTO/BAS-6622883210-2006 0712163646658365-78928052 -200c2e9a6f79564aeb824795 4ab266eb2-CC-437-20060712 163512905865

PTO Form 1478 (Rev 6/2005)
OMB No. 0651-0009 (Exp xx/xx/xxxx)

### Trademark/Service Mark Application, Principal Register

Serial Number: 78928052 Filing Date: 07/12/2006

### To the Commissioner for Trademarks:

MARK: (Standard Characters, see mark)

The mark consists of standard characters, without claim to any particular font, style, size, or color.

The literal element of the mark consists of APEX COMPANIES.

The applicant, Apex Stores, LLC, a limited liability company organized under the laws of Rhode Island, residing at 100 Main Street, Pawtucket, Rhode Island, United States, 02860, requests registration of the trademark/service mark identified above in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the Principal Register established by the Act of July 5, 1946 (15 U.S.C. Section 1051 et seq.), as amended.

The applicant, or the applicant's related company or licensee, is using the mark in commerce, and lists below the dates of use by the applicant, or the applicant's related company, licensee, or predecessor in interest, of the mark on or in connection with the identified goods and/or services. 15 U.S.C. Section 1051(a), as amended.

International Class 036: shopping mall services and leasing of shopping mall space; real estate investment; real estate management; real estate development; financial services in the field of investments and financing

In International Class 036, the mark was first used at least as early as 09/01/2002, and first used in commerce at least as early as 09/01/2002, and is now in use in such commerce. The applicant is submitting or will submit one specimen for *each class* showing the mark as used in commerce on or in connection with any item in the class of listed goods and/or services, consisting of a(n) promotional web page describing the services and bearing the mark.

Specimen - 1

Applicant claims ownership of U.S. Registration Number(s) 2443933 and 2918976.

The applicant hereby appoints John E. Ottaviani and David G. Conlin; George W. Neuner; Linda M. Buckley; Peter F. Corless; Peter J. Manus; Lisa Swiszcz Hazzard; Christine C. O'Day; Kathleen B. Carr; Steven M. Jensen; Peter J. Manso; John B. Alexander; Kathryn A. Piffat; William J. Daley, Jr.; David A. Tucker; John J. Penny, Jr.; Howard M. Gitten; Gregory B. Butler; Barry Kramer; Scott F. Wofsy; George N. Chaclas, David J. Silvia; Stephana E. Patton; Jeffrey D. Hsi; Margaret J. McLaren; Mark Russett; Amy Leahy; Robert J. Tosti; Brian M. Gaff; Carrie Webb-Olson; Kathryn Grant Belleau; F. Andrew Anderson and Patrick J. Concannon of Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP, P.O. Box 55874, Boston, Massachusetts, United States, 02205 to submit this application on behalf of the applicant. The attorney docket/reference number is 42707/65893-2.

The USPTO is authorized to communicate with the applicant or its representative at the following email address: trademark@eapdlaw.com.

A fee payment in the amount of \$325 will be submitted with the application, representing payment for 1 class

(es).

#### Declaration

The undersigned, being hereby warned that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. Section 1001, and that such willful false statements, and the like, may jeopardize the validity of the application or any resulting registration, declares that he/she is properly authorized to execute this application on behalf of the applicant; he/she believes the applicant to be the owner of the trademark/service mark sought to be registered, or, if the application is being filed under 15 U.S.C. Section 1051(b), he/she believes applicant to be entitled to use such mark in commerce; to the best of his/her knowledge and belief no other person, firm, corporation, or association has the right to use the mark in commerce, either in the identical form thereof or in such near resemblance thereto as to be likely, when used on or in connection with the goods/services of such other person, to cause confusion, or to cause mistake, or to deceive; and that all statements made of his/her own knowledge are true; and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true.

Signature: /John E. Ottaviani/ Date: 07/12/2006

Signatory's Name: John E. Ottaviani

Signatory's Position: Attorney for Applicant

Mailing Address:

John E. Ottaviani P.O. Box 55874 Boston, Massachusetts 02205

RAM Sale Number: 437

RAM Accounting Date: 07/13/2006

Serial Number: 78928052

Internet Transmission Date: Wed Jul 12 16:36:46 EDT 2006 TEAS Stamp: USPTO/BAS-6622883210-2006071216364665836

5-78928052-200c2e9a6f79564aeb8247954ab26

6eb2-CC-437-20060712163512905865

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- **Technical help**: For instructions on how to use TDR, or help in resolving **technical** glitches, please e-mail <u>TDR@uspto.gov</u>. If outside of the normal business hours of the USPTO, please e-mail <u>Electronic</u> Business Support, or call 1-800-786-9199.
- Questions about USPTO programs: Please e-mail <u>USPTO Contact Center (UCC)</u>.

**NOTE**: Within any e-mail, please include your telephone number so we can talk to you directly, if necessary. Also, include the relevant serial number or registration number, if existing.

**EXHIBIT B** 

Document Description: Application Mail / Create Date: 12-Jul-2006

Previous Page

**Next Page** 

You are currently on page 1

of 3

PTO Form 1478 (Rev 6/2005) OMB No. 0651-0009 (Exp xx/xx/xxxx)

# Trademark/Service Mark Application, Principal Register

Serial Number: 78928036 Filing Date: 07/12/2006

### The table below presents the data as entered.

Input Field	Entered
MARK SECTION	
MARK	APEX COMPANIES
STANDARD CHARACTERS	YES
USPTO-GENERATED IMAGE	YES
LITERAL ELEMENT	APEX COMPANIES
MARK STATEMENT	The mark consists of standard characters, without claim to any particular font, style, size, or color.
OWNER SECTION	
NAME	Apex Stores, LLC
STREET	100 Main Street
CITY	Pawtucket
STATE	Rhode Island
ZIP/POSTAL CODE	02860
COUNTRY	United States
AUTHORIZED EMAIL COMMUNICATION	No
LEGAL ENTITY SECTION	
ТҮРЕ	LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
STATE/COUNTRY UNDER WHICH ORGANIZED	Rhode Island
GOODS AND/OR SERVICES SECTION	·
INTERNATIONAL CLASS	040

DESCRIPTION	custom finishing and embellishment of promotional items, namely, embroidery, embossing, engraving, customized printing, imprinting, screen printing and pad printing with company names, logos, monograms, words, and/or pictures for promotional and advertising purposes on the goods of others, namely, sportswear, apparel and other products
FILING BASIS	Section 1(a)
FIRST USE ANYWHERE DATE	At least as early as 09/01/2002
FIRST USE IN COMMERCE DATE	At least as early as 09/01/2002
SPECIMEN FILE NAME(S)	\\TICRS\EXPORT4\IMAGEOUT4 \789\280 \78928036\xml1\AP P0003.JPG
SPECIMEN DESCRIPTION	promotional web page describing the services and bearing the mark
ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS SECTION	ON
PRIOR REGISTRATION(S)	Applicant claims ownership of U.S. Registration Number(s) 2443933 and 2918976.
SIGNATURE SECTION	
SIGNATURE	/John E. Ottaviani/
SIGNATORY NAME	John E. Ottaviani
SIGNATORY DATE	07/12/2006
SIGNATORY POSITION	Attorney for Applicant
PAYMENT SECTION	
NUMBER OF CLASSES	1
NUMBER OF CLASSES PAID	1
SUBTOTAL AMOUNT	325
TOTAL AMOUNT	325
PAYMENT METHOD	CC
ATTORNEY	
NAME	John E. Ottaviani
FIRM NAME	Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP
STREET	P.O. Box 55874
CITY	Boston
STATE	Massachusetts
ZIP/POSTAL CODE	02205

COUNTRY	United States
PHONE	401-274-9200
EMAIL	trademark@eapdlaw.com
AUTHORIZED EMAIL COMMUNICATION	Yes
ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER	42707/65893-3
OTHER APPOINTED ATTORNEY(S)	David G. Conlin; George W. Neuner; Linda M. Buckley; Peter F. Corless; Peter J. Manus; Lisa Swiszcz Hazzard; Christine C. O'Day; Kathleen B. Carr; Steven M. Jensen; Peter J. Manso; John B. Alexander; Kathryn A. Piffat; William J. Daley, Jr.; David A. Tucker; John J. Penny, Jr.; Howard M. Gitten; Gregory B. Butler; Barry Kramer; Scott F. Wofsy; George N. Chaclas, David J. Silvia; Stephana E. Patton; Jeffrey D. Hsi; Margaret J. McLaren; Mark Russett; Amy Leahy; Robert J. Tosti; Brian M. Gaff; Carrie Webb-Olson; Kathryn Grant Belleau; F. Andrew Anderson and Patrick J. Concannon
CORRESPONDENCE SECTION	
NAME	John E. Ottaviani
FIRM NAME	Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP
STREET	P.O. Box 55874
CITY	Boston
STATE	Massachusetts
ZIP/POSTAL CODE	02205
COUNTRY	United States
PHONE	401-274-9200
EMAIL	trademark@eapdlaw.com
AUTHORIZED EMAIL COMMUNICATION	Yes
FILING INFORMATION	
SUBMIT DATE	Wed Jul 12 16:30:22 EDT 2006
TEAS STAMP	USPTO/BAS-6622883210-2006 0712163022672829-78928036 -200a8c31172751bdf263a699 c8e216ad36-CC-411-2006071 2162906313822

PTO Form 1478 (Rev 6/2005)
OMB No. 0651-0009 (Exp xx/xx/xxxx)

### Trademark/Service Mark Application, Principal Register

Serial Number: 78928036 Filing Date: 07/12/2006

#### To the Commissioner for Trademarks:

MARK: (Standard Characters, see <u>mark</u>)

The mark consists of standard characters, without claim to any particular font, style, size, or color.

The literal element of the mark consists of APEX COMPANIES.

The applicant, Apex Stores, LLC, a limited liability company organized under the laws of Rhode Island, residing at 100 Main Street, Pawtucket, Rhode Island, United States, 02860, requests registration of the trademark/service mark identified above in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the Principal Register established by the Act of July 5, 1946 (15 U.S.C. Section 1051 et seq.), as amended.

The applicant, or the applicant's related company or licensee, is using the mark in commerce, and lists below the dates of use by the applicant, or the applicant's related company, licensee, or predecessor in interest, of the mark on or in connection with the identified goods and/or services. 15 U.S.C. Section 1051(a), as amended.

International Class 040: custom finishing and embellishment of promotional items, namely, embroidery, embossing, engraving, customized printing, imprinting, screen printing and pad printing with company names, logos, monograms, words, and/or pictures for promotional and advertising purposes on the goods of others, namely, sportswear, apparel and other products

In International Class 040, the mark was first used at least as early as 09/01/2002, and first used in commerce at least as early as 09/01/2002, and is now in use in such commerce. The applicant is submitting or will submit one specimen for *each class* showing the mark as used in commerce on or in connection with any item in the class of listed goods and/or services, consisting of a(n) promotional web page describing the services and bearing the mark.

#### Specimen - 1

Applicant claims ownership of U.S. Registration Number(s) 2443933 and 2918976.

The applicant hereby appoints John E. Ottaviani and David G. Conlin; George W. Neuner; Linda M. Buckley; Peter F. Corless; Peter J. Manus; Lisa Swiszcz Hazzard; Christine C. O'Day; Kathleen B. Carr; Steven M. Jensen; Peter J. Manso; John B. Alexander; Kathryn A. Piffat; William J. Daley, Jr.; David A. Tucker; John J. Penny, Jr.; Howard M. Gitten; Gregory B. Butler; Barry Kramer; Scott F. Wofsy; George N. Chaclas, David J. Silvia; Stephana E. Patton; Jeffrey D. Hsi; Margaret J. McLaren; Mark Russett; Amy Leahy; Robert J. Tosti; Brian M. Gaff; Carrie Webb-Olson; Kathryn Grant Belleau; F. Andrew Anderson and Patrick J. Concannon of Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP, P.O. Box 55874, Boston, Massachusetts, United States, 02205 to submit this application on behalf of the applicant. The attorney docket/reference number is 42707/65893-3.

The USPTO is authorized to communicate with the applicant or its representative at the following email address: trademark@eapdlaw.com.

A fee payment in the amount of \$325 will be submitted with the application, representing payment for 1 class (es).

#### **Declaration**

The undersigned, being hereby warned that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. Section 1001, and that such willful false statements, and the like, may jeopardize the validity of the application or any resulting registration, declares that he/she is properly authorized to execute this application on behalf of the applicant; he/she believes the applicant to be the owner of the trademark/service mark sought to be registered, or, if the application is being filed under 15 U.S.C. Section 1051(b), he/she believes applicant to be entitled to use such mark in commerce; to the best of his/her knowledge and belief no other person, firm, corporation, or association has the right to use the mark in commerce, either in the identical form thereof or in such near resemblance thereto as to be likely, when used on or in connection with the goods/services of such other person, to cause confusion, or to cause mistake, or to deceive; and that all statements made of his/her own knowledge are true; and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true.

Signature: /John E. Ottaviani/ Date: 07/12/2006

Signatory's Name: John E. Ottaviani

Signatory's Position: Attorney for Applicant

Mailing Address: John E. Ottaviani P.O. Box 55874

Boston, Massachusetts 02205

RAM Sale Number: 411

RAM Accounting Date: 07/13/2006

Serial Number: 78928036

Internet Transmission Date: Wed Jul 12 16:30:22 EDT 2006 TEAS Stamp: USPTO/BAS-6622883210-2006071216302267282

9-78928036-200a8c31172751bdf263a699c8e21

6ad36-CC-411-20060712162906313822

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- **Technical help**: For instructions on how to use TDR, or help in resolving **technical** glitches, please e-mail <u>TDR@uspto.gov</u>. If outside of the normal business hours of the USPTO, please e-mail <u>Electronic</u>

Business Support, or call 1-800-786-9199.

• Questions about USPTO programs: Please e-mail <u>USPTO Contact Center (UCC)</u>.

**NOTE**: Within any e-mail, please include your telephone number so we can talk to you directly, if necessary. Also, include the relevant serial number or registration number, if existing.

Page 6 of 6

EXHIBIT C

Document Description: **Application**Mail / Create Date: **12-Jul-2006** 

Previous Page

**Next Page** 

You are currently on page 1

of 3



PTO Form 1478 (Rev 6/2005)
OMB No. 0651-0009 (Exp xx/xx/xxxx)

## Trademark/Service Mark Application, Principal Register

Serial Number: 78928022 Filing Date: 07/12/2006

### The table below presents the data as entered.

Input Field	Entered
MARK SECTION	
MARK	APEX COMPANIES
STANDARD CHARACTERS	YES
USPTO-GENERATED IMAGE	YES
LITERAL ELEMENT	APEX COMPANIES
MARK STATEMENT	The mark consists of standard characters, without claim to any particular font, style, size, or color.
OWNER SECTION	
NAME	Apex Stores, LLC
STREET	100 Main Street
CITY	Pawtucket
STATE	Rhode Island
ZIP/POSTAL CODE	02860
COUNTRY	United States
AUTHORIZED EMAIL COMMUNICATION	No
LEGAL ENTITY SECTION	
ТҮРЕ	LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
STATE/COUNTRY UNDER WHICH ORGANIZED	Rhode Island
GOODS AND/OR SERVICES SECTION	
INTERNATIONAL CLASS	035

DESCRIPTION	Promoting the goods and services of others by placing advertisements and promotional displays in an electronic site accessed through computer networks; providing an on-line advertising guide featuring the goods and services of others; electronic retailing services and ordering services via computer featuring a wide variety of merchandise; Retail store and mail order services, featuring, a wide variety of merchandise; arranging for others the repair, service and replacement of a wide variety of general merchandise and vehicles; retail automobile parts and accessories stores; retail store services featuring customer pick-up and/or payment of newly purchased or repaired merchandise; pick up and delivery services; legal, business, advertising, marketing and management consulting services; automobile repair and maintenance.
FILING BASIS	Section 1(a)
FIRST USE ANYWHERE DATE	At least as early as 09/01/2002
FIRST USE IN COMMERCE DATE	At least as early as 09/01/2002
SPECIMEN FILE NAME(S)	\\TICRS\EXPORT4\IMAGEOUT4 \789\280 \78928022\xml1\AP P0003.JPG
SPECIMEN DESCRIPTION	promotional web site describing the services and bearing the mark
ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS SECTION	ON
PRIOR REGISTRATION(S)	Applicant claims ownership of U.S. Registration Number(s) 2443933 and 2918976.
SIGNATURE SECTION	
SIGNATURE	/John E. Ottaviani/
SIGNATORY NAME	John E. Ottaviani
SIGNATORY DATE	07/12/2006
SIGNATORY POSITION	Attorney for Applicant
PAYMENT SECTION	
NUMBER OF CLASSES	1
NUMBER OF CLASSES PAID	1
SUBTOTAL AMOUNT	325
TOTAL AMOUNT	325
PAYMENT METHOD	CC

NAME	John E. Ottaviani
FIRM NAME	Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP
STREET	P.O. Box 55874
CITY	Boston
STATE	Massachusetts
ZIP/POSTAL CODE	02205
COUNTRY	United States
PHONE	401-274-9200
EMAIL	trademark@eapdlaw.com
AUTHORIZED EMAIL COMMUNICATION	Yes
ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER	42707/65893
OTHER APPOINTED ATTORNEY(S)	David G. Conlin; George W. Neuner; Linda M Buckley; Peter F. Corless; Peter J. Manus; Lisa Swiszcz Hazzard; Christine C. O'Day; Kathleen B. Carr; Steven M. Jensen; Peter J. Manso; John B. Alexander; Kathryn A. Piffat; William J. Daley, Jr.; David A. Tucker; John J. Penny, Jr.; Howard M. Gitten; Gregory B. Butler; Barry Kramer; Scott F. Wofsy; George N. Chaclas, David J. Silvia; Stephana E. Patton; Jeffrey D. Hsi; Margaret J. McLaren; Mark Russett; Amy Leahy; Robert J. Tosti; Brian M. Gaff; Carrie Webb-Olson; Kathryn Grant Belleau; F. Andrew Anderson and Patrick J. Concannon
CORRESPONDENCE SECTION	
NAME	John E. Ottaviani
FIRM NAME	Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP
STREET	P.O. Box 55874
CITY	Boston
STATE	Massachusetts
ZIP/POSTAL CODE	02205
COUNTRY	United States
PHONE	401-274-9200
EMAIL	trademark@eapdlaw.com
AUTHORIZED EMAIL COMMUNICATION	Yes

FILING INFORMATION	
SUBMIT DATE	Wed Jul 12 16:23:51 EDT 2006
TEAS STAMP	USPTO/BAS-6622883210-2006 0712162351058075-78928022 -200b4528491be59e02a3c4a3 46158a38b46-CC-387-200607 12162231968773

PTO Form 1478 (Rev 6/2005)
OMB No. 0651-0009 (Exp xx/xx/xxxx)

### Trademark/Service Mark Application, Principal Register

Serial Number: 78928022 Filing Date: 07/12/2006

### To the Commissioner for Trademarks:

MARK: (Standard Characters, see mark)

The mark consists of standard characters, without claim to any particular font, style, size, or color.

The literal element of the mark consists of APEX COMPANIES.

The applicant, Apex Stores, LLC, a limited liability company organized under the laws of Rhode Island, residing at 100 Main Street, Pawtucket, Rhode Island, United States, 02860, requests registration of the trademark/service mark identified above in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the Principal Register established by the Act of July 5, 1946 (15 U.S.C. Section 1051 et seq.), as amended.

The applicant, or the applicant's related company or licensee, is using the mark in commerce, and lists below the dates of use by the applicant, or the applicant's related company, licensee, or predecessor in interest, of the mark on or in connection with the identified goods and/or services. 15 U.S.C. Section 1051(a), as amended.

International Class 035: Promoting the goods and services of others by placing advertisements and promotional displays in an electronic site accessed through computer networks; providing an on-line advertising guide featuring the goods and services of others; electronic retailing services and ordering services via computer featuring a wide variety of merchandise; Retail store and mail order services, featuring, a wide variety of merchandise; arranging for others the repair, service and replacement of a wide variety of general merchandise and vehicles; retail automobile parts and accessories stores; retail store services featuring customer pick-up and/or payment of newly purchased or repaired merchandise; pick up and delivery services; legal, business, advertising, marketing and management consulting services; automobile repair and maintenance.

In International Class 035, the mark was first used at least as early as 09/01/2002, and first used in commerce at least as early as 09/01/2002, and is now in use in such commerce. The applicant is submitting or will submit one specimen for *each class* showing the mark as used in commerce on or in connection with any item in the class of listed goods and/or services, consisting of a(n) promotional web site describing the services and bearing the mark.

Specimen - 1

Applicant claims ownership of U.S. Registration Number(s) 2443933 and 2918976.

The applicant hereby appoints John E. Ottaviani and David G. Conlin; George W. Neuner; Linda M. Buckley; Peter F. Corless; Peter J. Manus; Lisa Swiszcz Hazzard; Christine C. O'Day; Kathleen B. Carr; Steven M. Jensen; Peter J. Manso; John B. Alexander; Kathryn A. Piffat; William J. Daley, Jr.; David A. Tucker; John J. Penny, Jr.; Howard M. Gitten; Gregory B. Butler; Barry Kramer; Scott F. Wofsy; George N. Chaclas, David J. Silvia; Stephana E. Patton; Jeffrey D. Hsi; Margaret J. McLaren; Mark Russett; Amy Leahy; Robert J. Tosti; Brian M. Gaff; Carrie Webb-Olson; Kathryn Grant Belleau; F. Andrew Anderson and Patrick J. Concannon of Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP, P.O. Box 55874, Boston, Massachusetts, United States,

02205 to submit this application on behalf of the applicant. The attorney docket/reference number is 42707/65893.

The USPTO is authorized to communicate with the applicant or its representative at the following email address: trademark@eapdlaw.com.

A fee payment in the amount of \$325 will be submitted with the application, representing payment for 1 class (es).

#### Declaration

The undersigned, being hereby warned that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. Section 1001, and that such willful false statements, and the like, may jeopardize the validity of the application or any resulting registration, declares that he/she is properly authorized to execute this application on behalf of the applicant; he/she believes the applicant to be the owner of the trademark/service mark sought to be registered, or, if the application is being filed under 15 U.S.C. Section 1051(b), he/she believes applicant to be entitled to use such mark in commerce; to the best of his/her knowledge and belief no other person, firm, corporation, or association has the right to use the mark in commerce, either in the identical form thereof or in such near resemblance thereto as to be likely, when used on or in connection with the goods/services of such other person, to cause confusion, or to cause mistake, or to deceive; and that all statements made of his/her own knowledge are true; and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true.

Signature: /John E. Ottaviani/ Date: 07/12/2006

Signatory's Name: John E. Ottaviani

Signatory's Position: Attorney for Applicant

Mailing Address:

John E. Ottaviani P.O. Box 55874 Boston, Massachusetts 02205

RAM Sale Number: 387

RAM Accounting Date: 07/13/2006

Serial Number: 78928022

Internet Transmission Date: Wed Jul 12 16:23:51 EDT 2006 TEAS Stamp: USPTO/BAS-6622883210-2006071216235105807

5-78928022-200b4528491be59e02a3c4a346158

a38b46-CC-387-20060712162231968773

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- **Technical help**: For instructions on how to use TDR, or help in resolving **technical** glitches, please e-mail <u>TDR@uspto.gov</u>. If outside of the normal business hours of the USPTO, please e-mail <u>Electronic</u> <u>Business Support</u>, or call 1-800-786-9199.
- Questions about USPTO programs: Please e-mail <u>USPTO Contact Center (UCC)</u>.

**NOTE**: Within any e-mail, please include your telephone number so we can talk to you directly, if necessary. Also, include the relevant serial number or registration number, if existing.

EXHIBIT D

Document Description: **Application**Mail / Create Date: **12-Jul-2006** 

Previous Page

Next Page

You are currently on page 1

of 3

9

PTO Form 1478 (Rev 6/2005)
OMB No. 0651-0009 (Exp xx/xx/xxxx)

# Trademark/Service Mark Application, Principal Register

Serial Number: 78928010 Filing Date: 07/12/2006

### The table below presents the data as entered.

Input Field	Entered
MARK SECTION	
MARK	APEX COMPANIES
STANDARD CHARACTERS	YES
USPTO-GENERATED IMAGE	YES
LITERAL ELEMENT	APEX COMPANIES
MARK STATEMENT	The mark consists of standard characters, without claim to any particular font, style, size, or color.
OWNER SECTION	
NAME	Apex Stores, LLC
STREET	100 Main Street
CITY	Pawtucket
STATE	
ZIP/POSTAL CODE	02860
COUNTRY	United States
AUTHORIZED EMAIL COMMUNICATION	No
LEGAL ENTITY SECTION	
TYPE .	LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
STATE/COUNTRY UNDER WHICH ORGANIZED	Rhode Island
GOODS AND/OR SERVICES SECTION	
INTERNATIONAL CLASS	042

DESCRIPTION	Computer services, namely, creating indexes of information, sites, and other resources available on computer networks; computer services, namely, providing search engines for obtaining data on a global computer network
FILING BASIS	Section 1(a)
FIRST USE ANYWHERE DATE	At least as early as 09/01/2002
FIRST USE IN COMMERCE DATE	At least as early as 09/01/2002
SPECIMEN FILE NAME(S)	\\TICRS\EXPORT4\IMAGEOUT4 \789\280 \\78928010\xml1\AP P0003.JPG
SPECIMEN DESCRIPTION	promotional web page describing the services and bearing the mark
ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS SECTION	ON
PRIOR REGISTRATION(S)	Applicant claims ownership of U.S. Registration Number(s) 2443933 and 2918976.
SIGNATURE SECTION	
SIGNATURE	/John E. Ottaviani/
SIGNATORY NAME	John E. Ottaviani
SIGNATORY DATE	07/12/2006
SIGNATORY POSITION	Attorney for Applicant
PAYMENT SECTION	
NUMBER OF CLASSES	1
NUMBER OF CLASSES PAID	1
SUBTOTAL AMOUNT	325
TOTAL AMOUNT	325
PAYMENT METHOD	CC
ATTORNEY	
NAME	John E. Ottaviani
FIRM NAME	Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP
STREET	P.O. Box 55874
CITY .	Boston
STATE	Massachusetts
ZIP/POSTAL CODE	02205
COUNTRY	United States
PHONE	401-274-9200

EMAIL	trademark@eapdlaw.com
AUTHORIZED EMAIL COMMUNICATION	Yes
ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER	42707/65893-4
OTHER APPOINTED ATTORNEY(S)	David G. Conlin; George W. Neuner; Linda M. Buckley; Peter F. Corless; Peter J. Manus; Lisa Swiszcz Hazzard; Christine C. O'Day; Kathleen B. Carr; Steven M. Jensen; Peter J. Manso; John B. Alexander; Kathryn A. Piffat; William J. Daley, Jr.; David A. Tucker; John J. Penny, Jr.; Howard M. Gitten; Gregory B. Butler; Barry Kramer; Scott F. Wofsy; George N. Chaclas, David J. Silvia; Stephana E. Patton; Jeffrey D. Hsi; Margaret J. McLaren; Mark Russett; Amy Leahy; Robert J. Tosti; Brian M. Gaff; Carrie Webb-Olson; Kathryn Grant Belleau; F. Andrew Anderson and Patrick J. Concannon
CORRESPONDENCE SECTION	
NAME	John E. Ottaviani
FIRM NAME	Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP
STREET	P.O. Box 55874
CITY	Boston
STATE	Massachusetts
ZIP/POSTAL CODE	02205
COUNTRY	United States
PHONE *	401-274-9200
EMAIL	trademark@eapdlaw.com
AUTHORIZED EMAIL COMMUNICATION	Yes
FILING INFORMATION	
SUBMIT DATE	Wed Jul 12 16:16:17 EDT 2006
TEAS STAMP	USPTO/BAS-6622883210-2006 0712161617707283-78928010 -200f7976153e875e66d1628e 254f3966ee5-CC-355-200607 12161452882723

PTO Form 1478 (Rev 6/2005)
OMB No. 0651-0009 (Exp xx/xx/xxxx)

### Trademark/Service Mark Application, Principal Register

Serial Number: 78928010 Filing Date: 07/12/2006

#### To the Commissioner for Trademarks:

MARK: (Standard Characters, see mark)

The mark consists of standard characters, without claim to any particular font, style, size, or color.

The literal element of the mark consists of APEX COMPANIES.

The applicant, Apex Stores, LLC, a limited liability company organized under the laws of Rhode Island, residing at 100 Main Street, Pawtucket, ', United States, 02860, requests registration of the trademark/service mark identified above in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the Principal Register established by the Act of July 5, 1946 (15 U.S.C. Section 1051 et seq.), as amended.

The applicant, or the applicant's related company or licensee, is using the mark in commerce, and lists below the dates of use by the applicant, or the applicant's related company, licensee, or predecessor in interest, of the mark on or in connection with the identified goods and/or services. 15 U.S.C. Section 1051(a), as amended.

International Class 042: Computer services, namely, creating indexes of information, sites, and other resources available on computer networks; computer services, namely, providing search engines for obtaining data on a global computer network

In International Class 042, the mark was first used at least as early as 09/01/2002, and first used in commerce at least as early as 09/01/2002, and is now in use in such commerce. The applicant is submitting or will submit one specimen for *each class* showing the mark as used in commerce on or in connection with any item in the class of listed goods and/or services, consisting of a(n) promotional web page describing the services and bearing the mark.

Specimen - 1

Applicant claims ownership of U.S. Registration Number(s) 2443933 and 2918976.

The applicant hereby appoints John E. Ottaviani and David G. Conlin; George W. Neuner; Linda M. Buckley; Peter F. Corless; Peter J. Manus; Lisa Swiszcz Hazzard; Christine C. O'Day; Kathleen B. Carr; Steven M. Jensen; Peter J. Manso; John B. Alexander; Kathryn A. Piffat; William J. Daley, Jr.; David A. Tucker; John J. Penny, Jr.; Howard M. Gitten; Gregory B. Butler; Barry Kramer; Scott F. Wofsy; George N. Chaclas, David J. Silvia; Stephana E. Patton; Jeffrey D. Hsi; Margaret J. McLaren; Mark Russett; Amy Leahy; Robert J. Tosti; Brian M. Gaff; Carrie Webb-Olson; Kathryn Grant Belleau; F. Andrew Anderson and Patrick J. Concannon of Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP, P.O. Box 55874, Boston, Massachusetts, United States, 02205 to submit this application on behalf of the applicant. The attorney docket/reference number is 42707/65893-4.

The USPTO is authorized to communicate with the applicant or its representative at the following email address: trademark@eapdlaw.com.

A fee payment in the amount of \$325 will be submitted with the application, representing payment for 1 class (es).

Page 5 of 6

#### Declaration

The undersigned, being hereby warned that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. Section 1001, and that such willful false statements, and the like, may jeopardize the validity of the application or any resulting registration, declares that he/she is properly authorized to execute this application on behalf of the applicant; he/she believes the applicant to be the owner of the trademark/service mark sought to be registered, or, if the application is being filed under 15 U.S.C. Section 1051(b), he/she believes applicant to be entitled to use such mark in commerce; to the best of his/her knowledge and belief no other person, firm, corporation, or association has the right to use the mark in commerce, either in the identical form thereof or in such near resemblance thereto as to be likely, when used on or in connection with the goods/services of such other person, to cause confusion, or to cause mistake, or to deceive; and that all statements made of his/her own knowledge are true; and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true.

Signature: /John E. Ottaviani/ Date: 07/12/2006

Signatory's Name: John E. Ottaviani

Signatory's Position: Attorney for Applicant

Mailing Address:

John E. Ottaviani P.O. Box 55874 Boston, Massachusetts 02205

RAM Sale Number: 355

RAM Accounting Date: 07/13/2006

Serial Number: 78928010

Internet Transmission Date: Wed Jul 12 16:16:17 EDT 2006 TEAS Stamp: USPTO/BAS-6622883210-2006071216161770728

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966ee5-CC-355-20060712161452882723

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Page 6 of 6

EXHIBIT E

#### OMB No. 0651-0065 (Exp 10/31/2008)

# Combined Declaration of Use and Incontestability Under Sections 8 & 15

The table	below presents the data as entered.
Input Field	Entered
REGISTRATION NUMBER	2562812
REGISTRATION DATE	04/23/2002
SERIAL NUMBER	75781411
MARK SECTION	
MARK	APEX ONLINE
OWNER SECTION (current)	
NAME	Apex Stores, LLC
STREET	100 Main Street
СІТУ	Pawtucket
STATE	Rhode Island
ZIP/POSTAL CODE	02860
COUNTRY	United States
ATTORNEY SECTION (current)	
NAME	Lawrence R. Robins
FIRM NAME	EDWARDS & ANGELL, LLP
STREET	PO BOX 55874
CITY	BOSTON
STATE	Massachusetts
POSTAL CODE	02205
COUNTRY	United States
PHONE	401-274-9200
FAX	401-276-6611
EMAIL	TRADEMARK@EDWARDSANGELL.COM
ATTORNEY SECTION(proposed)	3334
NAME	John E. Ottaviani
FIRM NAME	Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP
INTERNAL ADDRESS	P.O. Box 130
STREET	F.D.R. Station
СПУ	New York
STATE	New York
POSTAL CODE	10150
COUNTRY	United States
PHONE	401-274-9200
FAX	401-276-6611
EMAIL	TRADEMARK@EAPDLAW.COM
AUTHORIZED TO COMMUNICATE VIA E-MAIL	Yes
ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER	301900/59529

Case 4:08-cv-01681-SBA  OTHER APPOINTED ATTORNEY	Document 28-6 Filed 08/21/2008 Page 3 of 7 David G. Conlin; George W. Neuner; Linda M. Buckley; Peter F. Corless; Peter J. Manus; Lisa Swiszcz Hazzard; Christine C. O'Day; Kathleen B. Carr; Steven M. Jensen; Peter J. Manso; Kathryn A. Piffat; William J. Daley, Jr.; David A. Tucker; John J. Penny, Jr.; Howard M. Gitten; Gregory B. Butler; Barry Kramer; Scott F. Wofsy; George N. Chaclas; David J. Silvia; Stephana E. Patton; Jeffrey D. Hsi; Margaret J. McLaren; Mark Russett; Brian M. Gaff; Carrie Webb Olson; Kathryn Grant Belleau; F. Andrew Anderson; Patrick J. Concannon; Maria A. Scungio; Andrew T. O'Connor; Jacob G. Weintraub; Peter C. Schechter; Melissa Mendelsohn; YeWon Min; David I. Greenbaum; David Weild III; Andrea J. Mealey and Michael Rizzo
GOODS AND/OR SERVICES SECTION	
INTERNATIONAL CLASS	035
GOODS OR SERVICES	KEEP ALL LISTED
SPECIMEN FILE NAME(S)	\\TICRS2\EXPORT13\757\814\75781411\xml1\8150002.JP G
SPECIMEN DESCRIPTION	web page describing the services and bearing the mark
ATTORNEY SECTION (current)	
NAME	Lawrence R. Robins
FIRM NAME	EDWARDS & ANGELL, LLP
STREET	PO BOX 55874
CITY	BOSTON
STATE	Massachusetts
POSTAL CODE	02205
COUNTRY	United States
PHONE	401-274-9200
FAX	401-276-6611
EMAIL	TRADEMARK@EDWARDSANGELL.COM
ATTORNEY SECTION(proposed)	
NAME	John E. Ottaviani
FIRM NAME	Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP
INTERNAL ADDRESS	P.O. Box 130
STREET	F.D.R. Station
CITY	New York
STATE	New York
POSTAL CODE	10150
COUNTRY	United States
PHONE	401-274-9200
FAX	401-276-6611
EMAIL .	TRADEMARK@EAPDLAW.COM
AUTHORIZED TO COMMUNICATE VIA E-MAIL	Yes
ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER	301900/59529
OTHER APPOINTED ATTORNEY	David G. Conlin; George W. Neuner; Linda M. Buckley; Peter F. Corless; Peter J. Manus; Lisa Swiszcz Hazzard; Christine C. O'Day; Kathleen B. Carr; Steven M. Jensen; Peter J. Manso; Kathryn A. Piffat; William J. Daley, Jr.; David A. Tucker; John J. Penny, Jr.; Howard M. Gitten; Gregory B. Butler; Barry Kramer; Scott F. Wofsy; George N. Chaclas; David J. Silvia; Stephana E. Patton; Jeffrey D. Hsi; Margaret J. McLaren; Mark Russett; Brian M. Gaff; Carrie Webb Olson; Kathryn Grant Belleau; F. Andrew Anderson; Patrick J. Concannon; Maria A. Scungio; Andrew T. O'Connor; Jacob G. Weintraub; Peter C. Schechter; Melissa Mendelsohn;

Case 4:08-cv-01681-SBA	Document 28-6 Filed 08/2 YeWon Min; David I. Greenbaum; Da Michael Rizzo	1/2008 Page 4 of 7 avid Weild III; Andrea J. Mealey and
PAYMENT SECTION		
NUMBER OF CLASSES	1	
NUMBER OF CLASSES PAID	1	
SUBTOTAL AMOUNT	300	
TOTAL FEE PAID	300	
SIGNATURE SECTION		
SIGNATURE	/Andrew A. Gates/	
SIGNATORY'S NAME	Andrew A. Gates	
SIGNATORY'S POSITION	Manager	
DATE SIGNED	08/28/2007	
PAYMENT METHOD	DA	
	FILING INFORMATION	
SUBMIT DATE	Tue Aug 28 15:44:31 EDT 2007	
TEAS STAMP	USPTO/S08N15-38.112.153.1 90-20070828154431958069-2 562812-3801b458b62eda9385 dcc29909ae06467-DA-868-20 070828154146211093	

PTO Form 1583 (Res 5/2006) OMB No. 0651-0055 (Exp.10/31/2008)

## Combined Declaration of Use and Incontestability Under Sections 8 & 15

### To the Commissioner for Trademarks:

**REGISTRATION NUMBER:** 2562812 **REGISTRATION DATE:** 04/23/2002

MARK: APEX ONLINE

The owner, Apex Stores, LLC, having an address of 100 Main Street, Pawtucket, Rhode Island, United States 02860, is filing a Combined Declaration of Use and Incontestability Under Sections 8 & 15.

For International Class 035, the mark is in use in commerce on or in connection with **all** of the goods or services listed in the existing registration for this specific class; **and** the mark has been continuously used in commerce for five (5) consecutive years after the date of registration, or the date of publication under Section 12(c), and is still in use in commerce on or in connection with **all** goods or services listed in the existing registration for this class. Also, no final decision adverse to the owner's claim of ownership of such mark for those goods or services exists, or to the owner's right to register the same or to keep the same on the register; and, no proceeding involving said rights pending and not disposed of in either the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office or the courts exists.

The owner is submitting one specimen for this class showing the mark as used in commerce on or in connection with any item in this class, consisting of a(n) web page describing the services and bearing the mark.

Specimen File1

The registrant hereby appoints John E. Ottaviani and David G. Conlin; George W. Neuner; Linda M. Buckley; Peter F. Corless; Peter J. Manus; Lisa Swiszcz Hazzard; Christine C. O'Day; Kathleen B. Carr; Steven M. Jensen; Peter J. Manso; Kathryn A. Piffat; William J. Daley, Jr.; David A. Tucker; John J. Penny, Jr.; Howard M. Gitten; Gregory B. Butler; Barry Kramer; Scott F. Wofsy; George N. Chaclas; David J. Silvia; Stephana E. Patton; Jeffrey D. Hsi; Margaret J. McLaren; Mark Russett; Brian M. Gaff; Carrie Webb Olson; Kathryn Grant Belleau; F. Andrew Anderson; Patrick J. Concannon; Maria A. Scungio; Andrew T. O'Connor; Jacob G. Weintraub; Peter C. Schechter; Melissa Mendelsohn; YeWon Min; David I. Greenbaum; David Weild III; Andrea J. Mealey and Michael Rizzo of Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP, F.D.R. Station, P.O. Box 130, New York, New York United States 10150 to file this Combined Declaration of Use and Incontestability Under Sections 8 & 15 on behalf of the registrant. The attorney docket/reference number is 301900/59529.

A fee payment in the amount of \$300 will be submitted with the form, representing payment for 1 class(es), plus any additional grace period fee, if necessary.

#### Declaration

The owner, or its related company, is using the mark in commerce on or in connection with the goods and/or services identified above, as evidenced by the attached specimen(s) showing the mark as used in commerce. The owner, or its related company, has continuously used the mark in commerce on or in connection with the goods and/or services identified above, for five (5) consecutive years after the date of registration, or the date of publication under Section 12(c), and is still using the mark in commerce on or in connection with the identified goods and/or services. There has been no final decision adverse to the owner's claim of ownership of such mark for such goods and/or services, or to the owner's right to register the same or to keep the same on the register; and there is no proceeding involving said rights pending and not disposed of either in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office or in the courts.

The undersigned being hereby warned that willful false statements and the like are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. Section 1001, and that such willful false statements and the like may jeopardize the validity of this document, declares that he/she is properly authorized to execute this document on behalf of the Owner; and all statements made of his/her own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true.

Signature: /Andrew A. Gates/ Date: 08/28/2007

Signatory's Name: Andrew A. Gates Signatory's Position: Manager

Mailing Address:

EDWARDS & ANGELL, LLP PO BOX 55874 BOSTON, Massachusetts 02205

Mailing Address:

Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP F.D.R. Station New York, New York 10150

Serial Number: 75781411

Internet Transmission Date: Tue Aug 28 15:44:31 EDT 2007 TEAS Stamp: USPTO/S08N15-38.112.153.190-200708281544

31958069-2562812-3801b458b62eda9385dcc29 909ae06467-DA-868-20070828154146211093

# apexstores.com. Apex.

























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Or call us foll free at

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Monday-Friday 9 AM - 5 PM EST

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Filed 08/21/2008 Case 4:08-cv-01681-SBA Document 28-6 Page 7 of 7

## **ROUTING SHEET TO POST REGISTRATION (PRU)**

**Registration Number:** 

2562812





RAM Sale Number: 868

RAM Accounting Date: 20070829

**Total Fees:** 

\$300

Note: Process in accordance with Post Registration Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)

<b>Transaction</b>	Fee <u>Code</u>	Transaction <u>Date</u>	Fee per <u>Class</u>	Number of Classes	Number of Classes Paid	Total <u>Fee</u>
§8 affidavit §15 affidavit	7205 7208	20070828 20070828	\$100 \$200	1	1	\$100 \$200

Physical Location: 900 - FILE REPOSITORY (FRANCONIA)

Lost Case Flag: False

In TICRS (AM-FLG-IN-TICRS): True

**Transaction Date:** 

20070828



**EXHIBIT F** 

# Combined Declaration of Use and Incontestability Under Sections 8 & 15

The table	The table below presents the data as entered.				
Input Field	Entered				
REGISTRATION NUMBER	2443933				
REGISTRATION DATE	04/17/2001				
SERIAL NUMBER	75781412				
MARK SECTION					
MARK	APEX STORES				
OWNER SECTION (no change)					
ATTORNEY SECTION (current)					
NAME	Lawrence R. Robins				
FIRM NAME .	EDWARDS & ANGELL, LLP				
STREET	PO BOX 55874				
CITY	BOSTON				
STATE	Massachusetts				
ZIP/POSTAL CODE	02205				
COUNTRY	United States				
PHONE	401-274-9200				
FAX	401-276-6611				
EMAIL	TRADEMARK@EDWARDSANGELL.COM				
ATTORNEY SECTION(proposed)					
NAME	John E. Ottaviani				
FIRM NAME	Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP				
INTERNAL ADDRESS	P.O. Box 130				
STREET	F.D.R. Station				
CITY	New York				
STATE	New York				
ZIP/POSTAL CODE	10150				
COUNTRY	United States				
PHONE	401-274-9200				
FAX	401-276-6611				
EMAIL	TRADEMARK@EAPDLAW.COM				
AUTHORIZED TO COMMUNICATE VIA E-MAIL	Yes				
DOCKET NUMBER	42707/59260				
OTHER APPOINTED ATTORNEY(S)	David G. Conlin; George W. Neuner; Linda M. Buckley; Peter F. Corless; Peter J. Manus; Lisa Swiszcz Hazzard; Christine C. O'Day; Kathleen B. Carr; Steven M. Jensen; Peter J. Manso; Kathryn A. Piffat; William J. Daley, Jr.; David A. Tucker; John J. Penny, Jr.; Howard M. Gitten; Gregory B. Butler; Barry Kramer; Scott F. Wofsy; George N. Chaclas, David J. Silvia; Stephana E. Patton; Jeffrey D. Hsi; Margaret J. McLaren; Mark Russett; Amy Leahy; Robert J. Tosti; Brian M. Gaff; Carrie Webb-Olson; Kathryn Grant Belleau; F. Andrew Anderson; Patrick J. Concannon; Maria A. Scungio; Andrew T. O'Connor; Daniel I. Ackerman, Jacob G. Weintraub and Peter C. Schechter				

Case 4:08-cv-01681-SBA D	ocument 28-7 Filed 08/21/2008 Page 3 of 6
INTERNATIONAL CLASS	035
FILING COVERS ALL GOODS OR SERVICES IN THIS CLASS	YES
SPECIMEN FILE NAME(S)	\\TICRS2\EXPORT12\757\814\75781412\xml1\8150002.JP G
SPECIMEN DESCRIPTION	web page describing the services and bearing the mark
PAYMENT SECTION	
NUMBER OF CLASSES	
NUMBER OF CLASSES PAID	
SUBTOTAL AMOUNT	300
TOTAL AMOUNT	300
SIGNATURE SECTION	
SIGNATURE	/Andrew A. Gates/
SIGNATORY'S NAME	Andrew A. Gates
SIGNATORY'S POSITION	Manager
DATE SIGNED	04/17/2007
PAYMENT METHOD	DA
FILING INFORMATION	
SUBMIT DATE	Tue Apr 17 16:38:41 EDT 2007
TEAS STAMP	USPTO/S08N15-38.112.153.1 90-20070417163841256576-2 443933-370b99050d788ebca9 8aea8e456f279af6-DA-493-2 0070417163451383546

PTO Form 1583 (Rev 5/2006) OMB No. 0551-0555 (Exp. 10/31/2006)

# Combined Declaration of Use and Incontestability Under Sections 8 & 15 To the Commissioner for Trademarks:

REGISTRATION NUMBER: 2443933 REGISTRATION DATE: 04/17/2001

MARK: APEX STORES

The owner, Apex Stores, LLC, having an address of 100 Main Street, Pawtucket, Rhode Island US 02860, is filing a Combined Declaration of Use and Incontestability Under Sections 8 & 15.

For International Class 035, the owner, or its related company, is using the mark in commerce on or in connection with **all** goods or services listed in the existing registration for this class; and, the owner, or its related company, has continuously used the mark in commerce for five (5) consecutive years after the date of registration, or the date of publication under Section 12(c), and is still using the mark in commerce on or in connection with **all** goods or services listed in the existing registration for this class. Also, there has been no final decision adverse to the owner's claim of ownership of such mark for those goods or services, or to the owner's right to register the same or to keep the same on the register; and, there is no proceeding involving said rights pending and not disposed of in either the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office or the courts.

The owner is submitting one specimen for this class showing the mark as used in commerce on or in connection with any item in this class, consisting of a(n) web page describing the services and bearing the mark.

Specimen-1

The registrant hereby appoints John E. Ottaviani and David G. Conlin; George W. Neuner; Linda M. Buckley; Peter F. Corless; Peter J. Manus; Lisa Swiszcz Hazzard; Christine C. O'Day; Kathleen B. Carr; Steven M. Jensen; Peter J. Manso; Kathryn A. Piffat; William J. Daley, Jr.; David A. Tucker; John J. Penny, Jr.; Howard M. Gitten; Gregory B. Butler; Barry Kramer; Scott F. Wofsy; George N. Chaclas, David J. Silvia;

Stephana E. Patton, Jeffrey D. Hsl, Margaret J. McLaren, Mark Russett, Amy Leahy; Robert J. Tosti; Brian M. Gaff; Carrie Webb-Olson; Kathryn Grant Belleau; F. Andrew Anderson; Patrick J. Concannon; Maria A. Scungio; Andrew T. O'Connor; Daniel I. Ackerman, Jacob G. Weintraub and Peter C. Schechter of Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP, P.O. Box 130, F.D.R. Station, New York, New York United States 10150 to file this Combined Declaration of Use and Incontestability Under Sections 8 & 15 on behalf of the registrant. The attorney docket/reference number is 42707/59260.

A fee payment in the amount of \$300 will be submitted with the form, representing payment for 1 class(es), plus any additional grace period fee, if necessary.

#### Declaration

The owner, or its related company, is using the mark in commerce on or in connection with the goods and/or services identified above, as evidenced by the attached specimen(s) showing the mark as used in commerce. The owner, or its related company, has continuously used the mark in commerce on or in connection with the goods and/or services identified above, for five (5) consecutive years after the date of registration, or the date of publication under Section 12(c), and is still using the mark in commerce on or in connection with the identified goods and/or services. There has been no final decision adverse to the owner's claim of ownership of such mark for such goods and/or services, or to the owner's right to register the same or to keep the same on the register; and there is no proceeding involving said rights pending and not disposed of either in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office or in the courts.

The undersigned being hereby warned that willful false statements and the like are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. Section 1001, and that such willful false statements and the like may jeopardize the validity of this document, declares that he/she is properly authorized to execute this document on behalf of the Owner; and all statements made of his/her own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true.

Signature: /Andrew A. Gates/ Date: 04/17/2007

Signatory's Name: Andrew A. Gates Signatory's Position: Manager

Mailing Address:

EDWARDS & ANGELL, LLP PO BOX 55874 BOSTON, Massachusetts 02205

Mailing Address:

Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP F.D.R. Station New York, New York 10150

Serial Number: 75781412

Internet Transmission Date: Tue Apr 17 16:38:41 EDT 2007 TEAS Stamp: USPTO/S08N15-38.112.153.190-200704171638 41256576-2443333-370b99050d788aban98an8

41256576-2443933-370b99050d788ebca98aea8 e456f279af6-DA-493-20070417163451383546

## Document 28-Filed 08/21/2008 Page 5 of 6 Case 4 Bed & Bath exstores.com... Kitchen Garden & Patio Living Room FAO's Collectibles/Coins & Bills Privacy Policy Help Large Dial Fitness Scale, in/e Linking Popover Pan by White or Black, by Salter Horpro Show Order \$34.99 \$12.99 Personal Bag from Recirculating Humidifier Calypso by Delsey by Lasko 9.0 gallon 2-8 Cup Percolator/Coffee Set 4 Crystal Flutes by Pot by Farberware Luigi Bormioli <u>Millennium</u> \$18.99 \$34.99 10 PC, Wok Set by Norpro Egg Express by Krups \$32.99 George Foreman 2 Piece Cruet Set by Indoor/Outdoor Electric Barbecue Grill by Salton Michelangelo \$11.99 \$79.99 apexstores.com, is the online shopping site of Apex, the only site with everything for your home on one Apex is a New England based retailer delivering the ultimate in brand name selection and unbeatable customer service. Apex has been providing over 78 years of award winning service to it's customers. Every minute of that 78 years of experience has been incorporated into this site and the service behind it, to deliver the best possible Apex Online® shopping experiencel If you would like to use our award winning Apexexpress delivery service please call 1-800-450-Apex. If you have any questions on any specific items, please feel free to e-mail us at info@apexstores.com anytime. Or call us toll free at 1-800-450-APEX(2739) Monday-Friday 9 AM - 5 PM EST

Garden & Patio Living Room

<u>Kitchen</u>

Collectibles/Colns & Bills

Bed & Bath

FAO's

@ copyright 1998-2007 Apex At Home, LLC. All rights reserved

## ROUTING SHEET TO POST REGISTRATION (PRU)

**Registration Number:** 

2443933



Serial Number:

er: 75781412

RAM Sale Number: 493

RAM Accounting Date: 20070418

**Total Fees:** 

\$300

Note: Process in accordance with Post Registration Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)

Transaction	Fee Code	Transaction <u>Date</u>	Fee per <u>Class</u>	Number of Classes	Number of Classes Paid	Total <u>Fee</u>
§8 affidavit §15 affidavit	7205 7208	20070417 20070417	\$100 \$200	1	1	\$100 \$200

Physical Location: 900 - FILE REPOSITORY (FRANCONIA)

Lost Case Flag: False

In TICRS (AM-FLG-IN-TICRS): True

Transaction Date:

20070417



**EXHIBIT G** 

## Combined Declaration of Use In Commerce & Application For Renewal of Registration of A Mark Under Sections 8 & 9

The table below presents the data as entered

Input Field	Entered
REGISTRATION NUMBER	1847961
REGISTRATION DATE	08/02/1994
SERIAL NUMBER	74430251
MARK SECTION	
MARK	APEX
OWNER SECTION (no change)	
ATTORNEY SECTION	
NAME	JOHN E. OTTAVIANI, ESQ.
FIRM NAME	Edwards & Angell, LLP
STREET	PO BOX 55874
СІТУ	BOSTON
STATE	MA .
ZIP/POSTAL CODE	02205
COUNTRY	USA
PHONE	401-274-9200
FAX	401-276-6611
EMAIL.	trademark@edwardsangell.com
AUTHORIZED TO COMMUNICATE VIA E-MAIL	Yes :
DOCKET NUMBERS	42707/59263
OTHER APPOINTED ATTORNEY(S)	Barbara S. Kitchell; Barry Kramer; Carrie Webb Olson; Christine C. O'Day; David A. Tucker; David G. Conlin; David J. Silvia; Douglas G. Gray; George Chaclas; George W. Hartnell, III; George W. Neuner; Gregory B. Butler; Howard M. Gitten; J. Mark Konieczny; Jennifer K. Rosenfield; John B. Alexander; John E. Ottaviani; John J. Penny, Jr.; Jun Umemuro; Kathleen B. Carr; Kathryn A. Piffat; Kelly L. Williams, Linda M. Buckley; Lisa Swiszcz Hazzard; Peter C. Lauro; Peter F. Corless; Peter J. Manso; Peter J. Manus; Richard H. Newman; Richard J. Roos; Robert L. Buchanan; Scott D. Wofsy, Steven M. Jensen; William J. Daley, Jr.
GOODS AND/OR SERVICES SECTION	
INTERNATIONAL CLASS	042
KEEP EXISTING GOODS AND/OR SERVICES	YES
SPECIMEN FILE NAME(S)	\\ticrs\EXPORT10\IMAGEOUT 10\744\302\74430251\xm11\ S890002.JPG
	\\ticrs\EXPORT10\IMAGEOUT 10\744\302\74430251\xml1\ S890003.JPG
SPECIMEN DESCRIPTION	advertisements
PAYMENT SECTION	
NUMBER OF CLASSES	
NUMBER OF CLASSES PAID	
SUBTOTAL AMOUNT	500
TOTAL AMOUNT	500

SIGNATURE'S PETCH 101681-SBA	Document 28-8 Filed 08/21/2008 Page 3 of 7
SIGNATURE	/John E. Ottaviani/
SIGNATORY NAME	John E. Ottaviani
SIGNATORY DATE	07/22/2004
SIGNATORY POSITION	Attorney
FILING INFORMATION	
SUBMIT DATE	Thu Jul 22 17:05:54 EDT 2004
TEAS STAMP	USPTO/S08N09-641722634-20 040722170554708058-184796 1-200ad7b27eed073bc83324c 114edd2b-DA-322-200407221 70441001326

PTO Form 1983 (Rev 5/2006) OMB No. 0551-0055 (Exp.10/31/2008)

# Combined Declaration of Use In Commerce & Application For Renewal of Registration of A Mark Under Sections 8 & 9

#### To the Commissioner for Trademarks:

**REGISTRATION NUMBER:** 1847961 **REGISTRATION DATE:** 08/02/1994

MARK: APEX

The owner, APEX STORES, LLC, residing at 100 MAIN STREET, PAWTUCKET, RI US 02860, is using the mark in commerce on or in connection with the goods and /or services as follows:

For International Class 042, the owner is using or is using through a related company or licensee the mark in commerce on or in connection with all goods and/or services listed in the existing registration.

The owner is submitting one specimen for each class showing the mark as used in commerce on or in connection with any item in the class of listed goods and/or services, consisting of a(n) advertisements.

Specimen-1

Specimen-2

The registrant hereby appoints JOHN E. OTTAVIANI, ESQ. and Barbara S. Kitchell; Barry Kramer; Carrie Webb Olson; Christine C. O'Day; David A. Tucker; David G. Conlin; David J. Silvia; Douglas G. Gray; George Chaclas; George W. Hartnell, III; George W. Neuner; Gregory B. Butler; Howard M. Gitten; J. Mark Konieczny; Jennifer K. Rosenfield; John B. Alexander; John E. Ottaviani; John J. Penny, Jr.; Jun Umemuro; Kathleen B. Carr; Kathryn A. Piffat; Kelly L. Williams, Linda M. Buckley; Lisa Swiszcz Hazzard; Peter C. Lauro; Peter F. Corless; Peter J. Manso; Peter J. Manus; Richard H. Newman; Richard J. Roos; Robert L. Buchanan; Scott D. Wofsy, Steven M. Jensen; William J. Daley, Jr. of Edwards & Angell, LLP, PO BOX 55874, BOSTON, MA USA 02205 to submit this Combined Declaration of Use In Commerce & Application For Renewal of Registration of A Mark Under Sections 8 & 9 on behalf of the registrant. The attorney docket/reference number is 42707/59263.

A fee payment in the amount of \$500 will be submitted with the form, representing payment for 1 class(es), plus any additional grace period fee, if necessary.

#### Declaration

#### Section 8: Declaration of Use in Commerce

The owner is using or is using through a related company or licensee the mark in commerce on or in connection with the goods/services identified above, as evidenced by the attached specimen(s) showing the mark as used in commerce.

#### Section 9: Application for Renewal

The registrant requests that the registration be renewed for the goods and/or services identified above.

The undersigned being hereby warned that willful false statements and the like are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. Section 1001, and that such willful false statements and the like may jeopardize the validity of this document, declares that he/she is properly authorized to execute this document on behalf of the Owner; and all statements made of his/her own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true.

Signature: /John E. Ottaviani/ Date: 07/22/2004

Signatory's Name: John E. Ottaviani Signatory's Position: Attorney

Mailing Address:

Edwards & Angell, LLP PO BOX 55874 BOSTON, MA 02205

RAM Sale Number: 322

RAM Accounting Date: 07/23/2004

Serial Number: 74430251

Internet Transmission Date: Thu Jul 22 17:05:54 EDT 2004 TEAS Stamp: USPTO/S08N09-641722634-20040722170554708

058-1847961-200ad7b27eed073bc83324c114ed

d2b-DA-322-20040722170441001326

apex\_journal\_0423\_04half 4/20/04 12:37 PM Page 1



6

any one apparel item for the family

Apex.

any one apparel item for the family Apex

%

any one apparel item for the family Apex.

BONUS COUPONSII take an additional **-**% one item any

for the home!

-% any one item for the home!

HOURS: MONDAY — WEDNESDAY 10AM-6PM . THURSDAY & FRIDAY 10AM-8PM . SATURDAY 16AM-6PM . SUNDAYS 12NOON-5PM

FEE RECORD SHEET

**Registration Number:** 1847961

Serial Number: 74430251

RAM Sale Number: 322

**Total Fees:** 

\$500

RAM Accounting Date: 20040723

<u>Transaction</u>	Fee	Transaction	Fee per	Number	Total
	<u>Code</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Class</u>	of Classes	<u>Fee</u>
§8 affidavit	7205	20040722	\$100	1	\$100
Application for Renewal (§9)	7201	20040722	\$400	1	\$400

**Transaction Date:** 20040722



**EXHIBIT H** 

## Combined Declaration of Use and Incontestability Under Sections 8 & 15

The table below presents the data as entered.

The table	e below presents the data as entered.
Input Field	Entered
REGISTRATION NUMBER	2155905
REGISTRATION DATE	05/12/1998
SERIAL NUMBER	74529131
MARK SECTION	
MARK	APEX
OWNER SECTION (current)	
NAME	Apex Incorporated
STREET	100 Main Street
СПҮ	Pawtucket
STATE	RI
ZIP/POSTAL CODE	02860
COUNTRY	US
OWNER SECTION (proposed)	
NAME	APEX STORES, LLC
STREET	100 Main Street
СПУ	Pawtucket
STATE	RI
ZIP/POSTAL CODE	02860
COUNTRY	US
ATTORNEY SECTION	
NAME	John E. Ottaviani, Esq.
FIRM NAME	Edwards & Angell, LLP
STREET	PO BOX 55874
CITY	BOSTON
STATE	MA
ZIP/POSTAL CODE	02205
COUNTRY	USA
PHONE	401-274-9200
FAX	401-276-6611
EMAIL	trademark@edwardsangell.com
AUTHORIZED TO COMMUNICATE VIA E-MAIL	Yes
DOCKET NUMBERS	42707/59255
OTHER APPOINTED ATTORNEY(S)	Barbara S. Kitchell; Barry Kramer; Carrie Webb Olson; Christine C. O'Day; David A. Tucker; David G. Conlin; David J. Silvia; Douglas G. Gray; George Chaclas; George W. Hartnell, III; George W. Neuner; Gregory B. Butler; Howard M. Gitten; J. Mark Konieczny; Jennifer K. Rosenfield; John B. Alexander; John J. Penny, Jr.; Jun Umemuro; Kathleen B. Carr; Kathryn A. Piffat; Kelly L. Williams, Linda M. Buckley; Lisa Swiszcz Hazzard; Peter C. Lauro; Peter F. Corless; Peter J. Manso; Peter J. Manus; Richard H. Newman; Richard J. Roos; Robert L. Buchanan; Scott D. Wofsy, Steven M.

Case 4:08-cv-01681-SBA	Document 28-9 Filed 08/21/2008 Page 3 of 7
GOODS AND/OR SERVICES SECTION	
INTERNATIONAL CLASS	037
KEEP EXISTING GOODS AND/OR SERVICES	YES
SPECIMEN FILE NAME(S)	\\ticrs\EXPORT9\IMAGEOUT9\745\291\74529131\xml1\81 50002.JPG
SPECIMEN DESCRIPTION	advertisement
INTERNATIONAL CLASS	042
KEEP EXISTING GOODS AND/OR SERVICES	YES
SPECIMEN FILE NAME(S)	\\ticrs\EXPORT9\IMAGEOUT9\745\291\74529131\xm11\81 50003.JPG
SPECIMEN DESCRIPTION	advertisement
PAYMENT SECTION	
NUMBER OF CLASSES	2
NUMBER OF CLASSES PAID	2
SUBTOTAL AMOUNT	600
TOTAL AMOUNT	600
SIGNATURE SECTION	
SIGNATURE	/John E. Ottaviani, Esq /
SIGNATORY NAME	John E. Ottaviani, Esq
SIGNATORY DATE	05/12/2004
SIGNATORY POSITION	Attorney
FILING INFORMATION	
SUBMIT DATE	Wed May 12 15:26:44 EDT 2004
TEAS STAMP	USPTO/S08N15-641722634-20 040512152644098070-215590 5-2002ff1a6631cb21d7771f8 fdfc692af4f-DA-109-200405 12145402605391

PTO Form 1583 (Rev 5/2006) OMB No. 0551-3055 (Exp. 10/31/2008)

## Combined Declaration of Use and Incontestability Under Sections 8 & 15

### To the Commissioner for Trademarks:

**REGISTRATION NUMBER: 2155905 REGISTRATION DATE: 05/12/1998** 

MARK: APEX

The owner, APEX STORES, LLC, residing at 100 Main Street, Pawtucket, RI US 02860, is using the mark in commerce on or in connection with the goods and /or services as follows:

For International Class 037, the owner is using or is using through a related company or licensee the mark in commerce on or in connection with all goods and/or services listed in the existing registration.

The owner is submitting one specimen for each class showing the mark as used in commerce on or in connection with any item in the class of listed goods and/or services, consisting of a(n) advertisement.

Specimen-1

For International Class 042, the owner is using or is using through a related company or licensee the mark in commerce on or in connection with all goods and/or services listed in the existing registration.

Case 4:08-cv-01681-SBA Document 28-9. Filed 08/21/2008. Page 4 of 7 The owner is submitting one specimen for each class showing the mark as used in commerce on or in connection with any item in the class of listed goods and/or services, consisting of a(n) advertisement.

Specimen-1

The registrant hereby appoints John E. Ottaviani, Esq. and Barbara S. Kitchell; Barry Kramer; Carrie Webb Olson; Christine C. O'Day; David A. Tucker; David G. Conlin; David J. Silvia; Douglas G. Gray; George Chaclas; George W. Hartnell, III; George W. Neuner; Gregory B. Butler; Howard M. Gitten; J. Mark Konieczny; Jennifer K. Rosenfield; John B. Alexander; John J. Penny, Jr.; Jun Umemuro; Kathleen B. Carr; Kathryn A. Piffat; Kelly L. Williams, Linda M. Buckley; Lisa Swiszcz Hazzard; Peter C. Lauro; Peter F. Corless; Peter J. Manso; Peter J. Manus; Richard H. Newman; Richard J. Roos; Robert L. Buchanan; Scott D. Wofsy, Steven M. Jensen; William J. Daley, Jr. of Edwards & Angell, LLP, PO BOX 55874, BOSTON, MA USA 02205 to submit this Combined Declaration of Use and Incontestability Under Sections 8 & 15 on behalf of the registrant. The attorney docket/reference number is 42707/59255.

A fee payment in the amount of \$600 will be submitted with the form, representing payment for 2 class(es), plus any additional grace period fee, if necessary.

#### Declaration

The owner is using or is using through a related company or licensee the mark in commerce on or in connection with the goods/services identified above, as evidenced by the attached specimen(s) showing the mark as used in commerce. The mark has been in continuous use in commerce for five consecutive years after the date of registration, or the date of publication under Section 12(c), and is still in use in commerce on or in connection with all goods and/or services as identified above. There has been no final decision adverse to the owner's claim of ownership of such mark for such goods and/or services, or to the owner's right to register the same or to keep the same on the register; and there is no proceeding involving said rights pending and not disposed of either in the Patent and Trademark Office or in the courts.

The undersigned being hereby warned that willful false statements and the like are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. Section 1001, and that such willful false statements and the like may jeopardize the validity of this document, declares that he/she is properly authorized to execute this document on behalf of the Owner; and all statements made of his/her own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true.

Signature: /John E. Ottaviani, Esq / Date: 05/12/2004

Signatory's Name: John E. Ottaviani, Esq

Signatory's Position: Attorney

Mailing Address: Edwards & Angell, LLP PO BOX 55874 BOSTON, MA 02205

RAM Sale Number: 109

RAM Accounting Date: 05/13/2004

Serial Number: 74529131

Internet Transmission Date: Wed May 12 15:26:44 EDT 2004 TEAS Stamp: USPTO/S08N15-641722634-20040512152644098

070-2155905-2002ff1a6631cb21d7771f8fdfc6 92af4f-DA-109-20040512145402605391 apextire 1011\_01/011 9/5/03 10:03 an Page 1

## YEARS OF TRUSTED CAR CARE • VOTED BEST AUTO REPAIR

# **ex** Tire & Service Center, LC

1 School Street, Pawtucket, RI 02860

Monday-Friday 8am-5:30pm • Saturday 8am-2pm

401-725-0540

SAVE OVER

TMISSIONS SAFETY Inspection Station





ON AWARD WINNING AUTO SERVICE WITH THESE COUPONS



Take an additional \$5.00° off every tire purchased

Can be used for up to 4 fires.

oe presentatus ome of rich the end, we co. Expires October 31, 2003, #FC GI

Apex Tire & Service Centeral



ionn en

With the purchase of two or more tires

be proposed at horself selection of the objections (i.e., and in the objections) (i.e., and in the objections)

Apex Tire & Service Center ...



Maintenance Free BATTERY

nor world an reactably replectament

be paramed at time of your Ne observed to a price who. Expires October 31, 2003, MIC 02

ADOX Tire & Service Center ....

Winter/Summer Coolant Service

Drain & refill radiator with required amount of ant-freeze. (extro charge for anti-fenesa)

Check belts, hoses, bettery and

system.

No laboured incompanion with other afforts and of the property of the other states of the property October 31, 2001. ATC-05

Apex Tire & Service Center,

Brake System

STEELE

"Clean & Reports Receivings WAGNER"

Resurbose Rotors or Droins - Brake Products

Replacement Werracky

be prevented as the of use. No education in Expense Oktober 31, 2003, #10.03

Apex Tire & Service Center ...

Easy Oil & Lube Special 10 point special

• Up to 5 qis. Penirzoil Oil (PENIOL)

New Pennzoll Oil Filter

. Top off all fluids

happeared a second selection objectives on provided Expires October 31, 2003, #TC-06

Apex Tire & Service Centeral

WE OFFER COMPLETE AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE FOR YOUR CAR OR LIGHT TRUCK AT LOW APEX PRICES. Save Everyday on the brand name tires you want.

Low Prices!!

GOODFYEAR



Inchia

**ODUNGOP** 

Continental<sup>9</sup> **BF**Goodrich

JOIN THE TEAM THAT WAS VOTED #1 BEST AUTO REPAIR & AWARD WINNING TIRE STORE

## Service Technician

Experience in engine diagnostics & tune-up necessary. Full time hours available at our Hawtuckel Tire & Service Centur. We offer as immediate storp wide discount, highly competitive salary, and a bonefits program. Apply in person as our Pawsocket fire Center or fax or send your resume or application to:

Human Resources 108 Main Street Pawtucket, RI 92850 Fax: 491-729-7215

Ages it all equal paper family amploy-

epweire idli\_divili ediene ilicuto\_ilbi ediene

YEARS OF TRUSTED CAR CARE • VOTED BEST AUTO REPAIR

# **ex** Tire & Service Center, LC

1 School Street, Pawtucket, RI 02860

401-725-0540

Monday-Friday 8am-5:30pm • Saturday 8am-2pm

**EMISSIONS** Inspection Station





ON AWARD WINNING AUTO SERVICE WITH THESE COU

Take an additional \$5.00° off every tire purchased Can be used for up to 4 fires.

Not to be used in improvious with place fallow. Consent multiple of enough and since of solds this adjustments on purer splay. Expirest October 31, 2003, 87C 01

Apex Tire & Service Centeries

annen

With the purchase of two or more tires

be personal of the college (1003), #7C-04

Apex Tire & Service Center ...

Maintenance Free BATTERY

not valid as warranty realistament

Not to the used in consention in this other others. Couper, multiple processing of the off value. No education to replace when Expenses October 31, 2003. MTC 02

Apex Tire & Service Center...

Winter/Summer **Coolant Service** 

Drain & refill radiator with required amount of ant-freeze. Sexten charge for anti-fearcal

Check belts, hases, battery and

system.

He to be used in companion with error office, by proceed in the office his comments as Expires October 31, 2003, 81C-05

Apex Tire & Service Center,

Brake System

Chook & Reports Decrings WAGNER

Resurtable Rotors or Drums - Brake Products

Replacement Werranke

be prescribed at the oblight the collapsement an prior school. Expires October 31, 2003, #TC-03

Apex Tire & Service Centeral

Easy Oil &

Lube Special

10 point special.

Up to Signs. Pennizoil Oil (PENNIOL)

· New Posinzoll Oil Filter

Top off all fluids

Not be Serviced in conjugation with other offices. Co. Language of artists of role this selectioneds on ordinary Expires October 31, 2003, #TC-06

Apex Tire & Service Center...

WE OFFER COMPLETE AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE FOR YOUR CAR OR LIGHT TRUCK AT LOW APEX PRICES. Save Everyday on the brand name tires you want.

Guaranteed Low Prices!!

<u>шкиште</u>

IBELLI

**ODUNKOP** 

Cathrental<sup>o</sup> **BFG**oodrigh

JOIN THE TEAM THAT WAS VOTED #1 BEST AUTO REPAIR & AWARD WINNING TIRE STORE

# Service Technician

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Human Resources 100 Main Street Pawtucket, RI 02850 Fax: 401-729-7215

FEE RECORD SHEET

**Registration Number:** 2155905

Serial Number: 74529131

RAM Sale Number: 109

**Total Fees:** 

\$600

RAM Accounting Date: 20040513

Transaction	Fee <u>Code</u>	Transaction <u>Date</u>	Fee per <u>Class</u>	Number of Classes	Total <u>Fee</u>
§8 affidavit	7205	05/12/2004	\$100	2	\$200
§15 affidavit	7208	05/12/2004	\$200	2	\$400

**EXHIBIT I** 

## Domain Whois Information

#### apexstores.com

CSC Corporate Domains(sm) - Expert Global Domain Name Management for Corporations, Law Firms and IP Professionals

Contact us at corporatedomains@cscinfo.com or 888-250-6159 to learn more about our worldwide domain name, DNS and digital certificate capabilities.

NOTICE: You are not authorized to access or query our WHOIS database through the use of high-volume, automated, electronic processes or for the purpose or purposes of using the data in any manner that violates these terms of use. The Data in CSC Corporate Domains' WHOIS database is provided by CSC Corporate Domains for information purposes only, and to assist persons in obtaining information about or related to a domain name registration record. CSC Corporate Domains does not guarantee its accuracy. By submitting a WHOIS query, you agree to abide by the following terms of use: you agree that you may use this Data only for lawful purposes and that under no circumstances will you use this Data to: (1) allow, enable, or otherwise support the transmission of mass unsolicited, commercial advertising or solicitations via direct mail, e-mail, telephone, or facsimile; or (2) enable high volume, automated, electronic processes that apply to CSC Corporate Domains (or its computer systems). CSC Corporate Domains reserves the right to terminate your access to the WHOIS database in its sole discretion for any violations by you of these terms of use. CSC Corporate Domains reserves the right to modify these terms at any time.

```
Registrant:
    Apex Stores, LLC
    LLC Apex Stores
    100 Main Street
    Pawtucket, RI 02860
    apexstores@aol.com
    +1.4017236108 Fax: +1.4017297215
Domain Name: APEXSTORES.COM
Registrar of Record: Corporate Domains, Inc.
Administrative Contact:
   Apex Stores, LLC
   LLC Apex Stores
   100 Main Street
   Pawtucket, RI 02860
   apexstores@aol.com
   +1.4017236108 Fax: +1.4017297215
Technical Contact:
   Apex Stores, LLC
   LLC Apex Stores
   100 Main Street
   Pawtucket, RI 02860
   apexstores@aol.com
   +1.4017236108 Fax: +1.4017297215
Domain servers in listed order:
   DNS1.CSCDNS.NET
   DNS2.CSCDNS.NET
Created on..... 11-Sep-96
Expires on..... 10-Sep-08
Record last updated on..: 22-Oct-07
```

## Domain Whois Information

#### apexathome.com

CSC Corporate Domains(sm) - Expert Global Domain Name Management for Corporations, Law Firms and IP Professionals

Contact us at corporatedomains@cscinfo.com or 888-250-6159 to learn more about our worldwide domain name, DNS and digital certificate capabilities.

NOTICE: You are not authorized to access or query our WHOIS database through the use of high-volume, automated, electronic processes or for the purpose or purposes of using the data in any manner that violates these terms of use. The Data in CSC Corporate Domains' WHOIS database is provided by CSC Corporate Domains for information purposes only, and to assist persons in obtaining information about or related to a domain name registration record. CSC Corporate Domains does not guarantee its accuracy. By submitting a WHOIS query, you agree to abide by the following terms of use: you agree that you may use this Data only for lawful purposes and that under no circumstances will you use this Data to: (1) allow, enable, or otherwise support the transmission of mass unsolicited, commercial advertising or solicitations via direct mail, e-mail, telephone, or facsimile; or (2) enable high volume, automated, electronic processes that apply to CSC Corporate Domains (or its computer systems). CSC Corporate Domains reserves the right to terminate your access to the WHOIS database in its sole discretion for any violations by you of these terms of use. CSC Corporate Domains reserves the right to modify these terms at any time.

```
Registrant:
   Apex Stores, LLC
   LLC Apex Stores
   100 Main Street
   Pawtucket, RI 02860
   apexstores@aol.com
    +1.4017236108 Fax: +1.4017297215
Domain Name: APEXATHOME.COM
Registrar of Record: Corporate Domains, Inc.
Administrative Contact:
   Apex Stores, LLC
   LLC Apex Stores
   100 Main Street
    Pawtucket, RI 02860
   apexstores@aol.com
    +1.4017236108 Fax: +1.4017297215
Technical Contact:
   Apex Stores, LLC
   LLC Apex Stores
   100 Main Street
   Pawtucket, RI 02860
   apexstores@aol.com
    +1.4017236108 Fax: +1.4017297215
Domain servers in listed order:
    DNS1.CSCDNS.NET
    DNS2 . CSCDNS . NET
Created on..... 24-Jun-98
Expires on..... 23-Jun-09
Record last updated on..: 14-Jun-08
```

**EXHIBIT J** 

## **Domain Whois Information**

#### apexhealthandfitness.com

CSC Corporate Domains(sm) - Expert Global Domain Name Management for Corporations, Law Firms and IP Professionals

Contact us at corporatedomains@cscinfo.com or 888-250-6159 to learn more about our worldwide domain name, DNS and digital certificate capabilities.

NOTICE: You are not authorized to access or query our WHOIS database through the use of high-volume, automated, electronic processes or for the purpose or purposes of using the data in any manner that violates these terms of use. The Data in CSC Corporate Domains' WHOIS database is provided by CSC  $\,$ Corporate Domains for information purposes only, and to assist persons in obtaining information about or related to a domain name registration record. CSC Corporate Domains does not guarantee its accuracy. By submitting a WHOIS query, you agree to abide by the following terms of use: you agree that you may use this Data only for lawful purposes and that under no circumstances will you use this Data to: (1) allow, enable, or otherwise support the transmission of mass unsolicited, commercial advertising or solicitations via direct mail, e-mail, telephone, or facsimile; or (2) enable high volume, automated, electronic processes that apply to CSC Corporate Domains (or its computer systems). CSC Corporate Domains reserves the right to terminate your access to the WHOIS database in its sole discretion for any violations by you of these terms of use. CSC Corporate Domains reserves the right to modify these terms at any time.

```
Registrant:
   Apex Stores, LLC
   LLC Apex Stores
   100 Main Street
   Pawtucket, RI 02860
   US
   apexstores@aol.com
   +1.4017236108 Fax: +1.4017297215
Domain Name: APEXHEALTHANDFITNESS.COM
Registrar of Record: Corporate Domains, Inc.
Administrative Contact:
   Apex Stores, LLC
   LLC Apex Stores
   100 Main Street
   Pawtucket, RI 02860
   US
   apexstores@aol.com
   +1.4017236108 Fax: +1.4017297215
Technical Contact:
   Apex Stores, LLC
   LLC Apex Stores
   100 Main Street
   Pawtucket, RI 02860
   apexstores@aol.com
   +1.4017236108 Fax: +1.4017297215
Domain servers in listed order:
   DNS2.CSCDNS.NET
   DNS1.CSCDNS.NET
Created on..... 11-Jun-08
Record last updated on..: 11-Jun-08
```

**EXHIBIT K** 

## Shop By Room Bod & Bath **Dining Room** Garden & Patio Kitchen Living Room Apex Green Apparel **Appliances** Automotive Collectibles/Coins & Bills Electronics Jewelry Luggage & Bags **Sporting Goods & Fitness** FAQ's

Privacy	Policy		
Help			
Info			
Show	Order		
Email			

# apexstores.com.



Linking Popover Pan by Norpro \$12.99



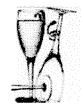
Personal Bag from Calypso by Delsey \$34.99



Recirculating Humidifier by Lasko 9.0 gallon \$79.99



2-8 Cup
Percolator/Coffee Pot by
Farberware Millennium
\$34.99



Set 4 Crystal Flutes by Luigi Bormioli \$18.99



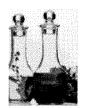
10 PC. Wok Set by Norpro \$32.99



Egg Express 7 Egg Cooker by Krups \$19.99



George Foreman Indoor/Outdoor Electric Barbecue Grill by Salton \$79.99



2 Piece Cruet Set by Michelangelo \$11.99



Quilted Metal 2-Slice
Toaster by Oster
Regular Price: \$39.99
Apex Price: \$12.99



<u>Sunbeam</u>
Regular Price: \$44.99
Apex Price: \$21.99



Set of 4 Michelangelo
Brandy Glasses by Luigi
Bormioli
\$17.99

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1-800-450-APEX(2739)

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**Appliances** 



**Automotive** 



**Collectibles/Coins & Bills** 



**Electronics** 



**Jewelry** 



Luggage & Bags



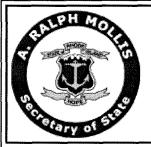
**Sporting Goods & Fitness** 

FAQ's

Page 4 of 4

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EXHIBIT L



## State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations Office of the Secretary of State

Corporations Division 148 W. River Street Providence, Rhode Island 02904-2615 Telephone: (401) 222-3040

Apex Stores, LLC Summary Screen

Help with this form

Request a Certificate

The exact name of the Domestic Limited Liability Company: Apex Stores, LLC

Entity Type: Domestic Limited Liability Company

Identification Number: 000107133

Date of Organization in Rhode Island: 06/25/1999

The location of its principal office:

No. and Street:

100 MAIN STREET

City or Town:

**PAWTUCKET** 

State: RI

Zip: <u>02860</u>

Country: <u>USA</u>

The mailing address or specified office:

No. and Street:

City or Town:

100 MAIN ST. **PAWTUCKET** 

State: RI

Zip: <u>02860</u>

Country: <u>USA</u>

Address Maintained: Y

Agent Resigned: N

The name and address of the Registered Agent: No. and Street: EDWARDS ANGELL PALMER & DODGE LLP

2800 FINANCIAL PLAZA

City or Town:

Name:

**PROVIDENCE** 

V. DUNCAN JOHNSON, ESQ.

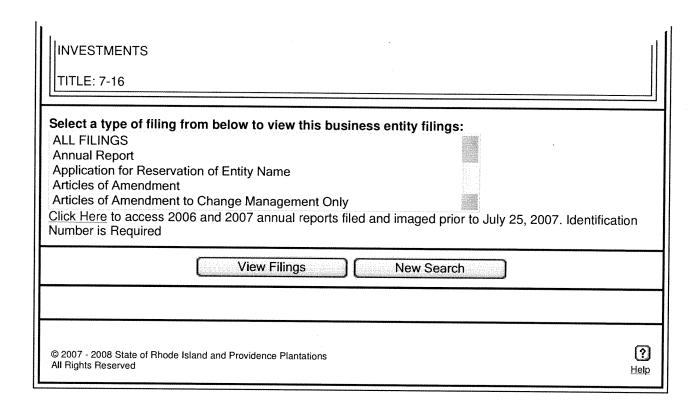
State: <u>RI</u> Zip: <u>02903</u>

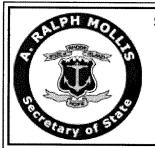
The limited liability company is to be managed by its Managers

The name and business address of each manager:

Title	Individual Name First, Middle, Last, Suffix	Address Address, City or Town, State, Zip Code, Country
MANAGER	ANDREW GATES	100 MAIN ST. PAWTUCKET, RI 02860- USA

**Purpose** 





## State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations Office of the Secretary of State

Corporations Division 148 W. River Street Providence, Rhode Island 02904-2615 Telephone: (401) 222-3040

Apex, LLC Summary Screen

0

Help with this form

Request a Certificate

The exact name of the Domestic Limited Liability Company: Apex, LLC

Entity Type: Domestic Limited Liability Company

Identification Number: 000139129

Date of Organization in Rhode Island: 03/30/2004 Effective Date: <u>03/30/2004</u>

The location of its principal office:

No. and Street:

**100 MAIN STREET** 

City or Town:

**PAWTUCKET** 

State: RI

Zip: 02860

Country: <u>USA</u>

The mailing address or specified office:

No. and Street:

City or Town:

**100 MAIN STREET PAWTUCKET** 

State: RI

Zip: 02860

Country: USA

Address Maintained: Y

The name and address of the Registered Agent:

Agent Resigned: N

No. and Street: EDWARDS ANGELL PALMER & DODGE LLP

2800 FINANCIAL PLAZA

City or Town:

Name:

**PROVIDENCE** 

V. DUNCAN JOHNSON, ESQ.

State: RI Zip: 02903-

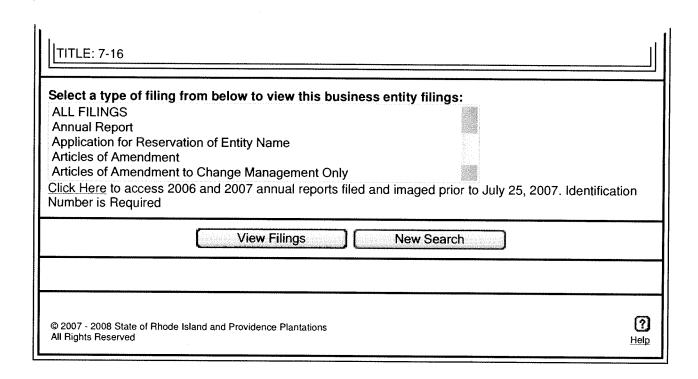
The limited liability company is to be managed by its Managers

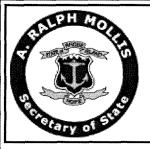
The name and business address of each manager:

Title **Individual Name Address** First, Middle, Last, Suffix Address, City or Town, State, Zip Code, Country

**Purpose** 

**INVESTMENTS** 





# State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations Office of the Secretary of State

Corporations Division 148 W. River Street Providence, Rhode Island 02904-2615 Telephone: (401) 222-3040

(?)

Apex At Home, LLC Summary Screen

Help with this form

Request a Certificate

The exact name of the Domestic Limited Liability Company: Apex At Home, LLC

Entity Type: Domestic Limited Liability Company

Identification Number: 000118978

Date of Organization in Rhode Island: 06/12/2001 Effective Date: 06/12/2001

The location of its principal office:

No. and Street:

100 MAIN STREET

City or Town:

**PAWTUCKET** 

State: RI Zip: 02860

Country: <u>USA</u>

The mailing address or specified office:

No. and Street:

Agent Resigned: N

100 MAIN STREET

City or Town:

**PAWTUCKET** 

State: RI

Zip: 02860

Country: USA

Address Maintained: Y

The name and address of the Registered Agent:

No. and Street: EDWARDS ANGELL PALMER & DODGE LLP

V. DUNCAN JOHNSON, ESQ.

2800 FINANCIAL PLAZA

City or Town:

Name:

**PROVIDENCE** 

Sta

State: RI Zip: 02903-

The limited liability company is to be managed by its Managers

The name and business address of each manager:

Title	Individual Name First, Middle, Last, Suffix	Address Address, City or Town, State, Zip Code, Country
MANAGER	ANDREW A GATES	100 MAIN STREET PAWTUCKET, RI 02860- USA

**Purpose** 

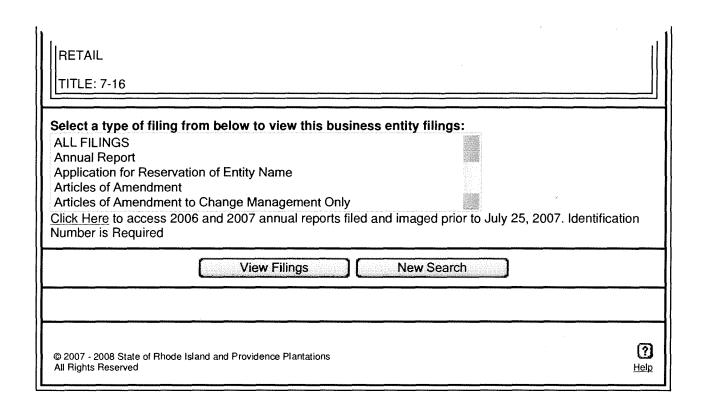
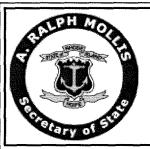


EXHIBIT M



## State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations Office of the Secretary of State

Corporations Division 148 W. River Street Providence, Rhode Island 02904-2615 Telephone: (401) 222-3040

(?)

Zelby Holdings, Inc. Summary Screen

Help with this form

Request a Certificate

The exact name of the Domestic Profit Corporation: Zelby Holdings, Inc.

**Entity Type:** <u>Domestic Profit Corporation</u>

Identification Number: 000134607

Date of Incorporation in Rhode Island: 09/10/2003 **Effective Date:** <u>09/10/2003</u>

The location of its principal office:

No. and Street:

100 MAIN STREET

City or Town:

PAWTUCKET

State: RI Zip: 02860 Country: <u>USA</u>

Address Maintained: Y

The mailing address or specified office:

No. and Street:

City or Town:

State:

Zip:

Country:

Name and address of the Registered Agent:

Agent Resigned: N

No. and Street: EDWARDS ANGELL PALMER & DODGE LLP

2800 FINANCIAL PLAZA

City or Town:

**PROVIDENCE** 

State: RI Zip: 02903-

Name: V. DUNCAN JOHNSON, ESQ.

The officers and all of the directors of the corporation:

Title	Individual Name	Address
	First, Middle, Last, Suffix	Address, City or Town, State, Zip Code, Country
PRESIDENT	ANDREW A GATES	100 MAIN STREET PAWTUCKET, RI 02860- USA

The total number of shares and par value, if any, of each class of stock which the business entity is authorized to issue:

Total

Class of Stock	Series of Stock	Par Value Per Share	Total Authorized Shares  Num of Shares	Issued and Outstanding Num of Shares
CWP		\$0.01	8,000.00	100.00
Purpose				
TO MAKE AND MANAGE INVESTMENTS  TITLE: 7-1.1-51				
Select a type of filing from below to view this business entity filings:  ALL FILINGS  Annual Report Application for Reservation of Entity Name Articles of Amendment Articles of Dissolution  Click Here to access 2006 and 2007 annual reports filed and imaged prior to July 25, 2007. Identification Number is Required				
View Filings New Search				
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EXHIBIT N

RECEIVED

AUG 1 2008

Manatt, Phelps & Phillips

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE Trademark Trial and Appeal Board P.O. Box 1451 Alexandria, VA 22313-1451

dv

File:	132 098	}	
SEH	CMK	MLF*	CDB-
GNA-	KBB	NMH	
BLA	AMH	KJT	Chron
SMW	MWZ	PG-	Client
SAG	J.S.	PA Calendar	BLA

Mailed: August 7, 2008

Cancellation No. 92048378

Apex Stores, LLC and Apex,
LLC

v.

24 Hour Fitness USA, Inc.

## M. Catherine Faint, Interlocutory Attorney:

The motion (filed July 8, 2008) to suspend the proceeding pending final determination of a civil action between the parties filed in the United States District Court for the District of Rhode Island, No. 08-169-ML, is hereby granted as conceded. See Trademark Rules 2.127(a) and 2.117(a).

Accordingly, proceedings are suspended pending final disposition of the civil action between the parties.

The Board also notes that petitioner's involved registrations have recorded assignments in the Assignments Division at Reel/Frame Nos. 3768/0929. It is the practice of the Board to join, rather than substitute an assignee when the assignment occurred after the commencement of the

Cancellation No. 92048378

proceeding in order to facilitate discovery. See TBMP § 512 (2d ed. rev. 2004).

Accordingly, Apex, LLC is joined as a party in this case. All papers filed in this proceeding should use the case title set forth above.

Within twenty days after the final determination of the civil action, the parties shall so notify the Board and call this case up for any appropriate action. During the suspension period, the parties shall notify the Board of any address changes for the parties or their attorneys.

\* \* \*

#### NEWS FROM THE TTAB:

The USPTO published a notice of final rulemaking in the Federal Register on August 1, 2007, at 72 F.R. 42242. By this notice, various rules governing Trademark Trial and Appeal Board inter partes proceedings are amended. Certain amendments have an effective date of August 31, 2007, while most have an effective date of November 1, 2007. For further information, the parties are referred to a reprint of the final rule and a chart summarizing the affected rules, their changes, and effective dates, both viewable on the USPTO website via these web addresses: <a href="http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/com/sol/notices/72fr42242.pdf">http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/com/sol/notices/72fr42242.pdf</a> <a href="http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/com/sol/notices/72fr42242.pdf">http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/com/sol/notices/72fr42242.pdf</a>

By one rule change effective August 31, 2007, the Board's standard protective order is made applicable to all TTAB inter partes cases, whether already pending or commenced on or after that date. However, as explained in the final rule and chart, this change will not affect any case in which any protective order has already been approved or imposed by the Board. Further, as explained in the final rule, parties are free to agree to a substitute protective order or to supplement or amend the standard order even

Cancellation No. 92048378

after August 31, 2007, subject to Board approval. The standard protective order can be viewed using the following web address:

http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/dcom/ttab/tbmp/stndagmnt.htm

EXHIBIT O



#### **United States Patent and Trademark Office**

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## TTABVUE. Trademark Trial and Appeal Board Inquiry System

v1.4

## Summary

Query: Party Name is: APEX STORES, LLC

and Proceeding Status is: ALL

Number of results: 22

Proce	eding
Filing	<b>Date</b>

Defendant(s), Property(ies)

91184638 Apex Electronic Data Interchange, Inc.

06/16/2008 Mark: APEX EDI **\$#:**77031538

Apex Stores, LLC

Mark: APEX S#:74430251 R#:1847961 Mark: APEX S#:74529131 R#:2155905 Mark: APEX ONLINE **S#:**75781411

R#:2562812

Mark: APEX MALL S#:75836787 R#:2657639

Plaintiff(s),

Property(ies)

Mark: APEX STORES **S#:**75781412

R#:2443933

Mark: APEX ADVANTAGE S#:78319107

R#:2918976

Mark: APEX COMPANIES S#:78928036

R#:3244685

Mark: APEX COMPANIES S#:78928010

R#:3356317

92049297

DYNAMIC HEALTHTECH INC.

04/29/2008 Mark: APEXLIFT S#:76440071 R#:2711317

Apex Stores, LLC

Mark: APEX S#:74430251 R#:1847961 Mark: APEX S#:74529131 R#:2155905 Mark: APEX ONLINE **S#:**75781411

R#:2562812

Mark: APEX MALL S#:75836787 R#:2657639

Mark: APEX STORES **\$#:**75781412

R#:2443933

Mark: APEX ADVANTAGE S#:78319107

R#:2918976

Mark: APEX COMPANIES 5#:78928036

R#:3244685

Mark: APEX COMPANIES S#:78928010

R#:3356317

91183479

Lawrence, Nick

04/09/2008 Mark: APEX ALARM S#:77044533

Apex Stores, LLC

Mark: APEX S#:74430251 R#:1847961 Mark: APEX S#:74529131 R#:2155905 Mark: APEX ONLINE **\$#:**75781411

R#:2562812

Mark: APEX MALL S#:75836787 R#:2657639

Mark: APEX STORES **\$#:**75781412

R#:2443933

Mark: APEX ADVANTAGE S#:78319107

**R#:**2918976

Mark: APEX COMPANIES S#:78928036

R#:3244685

76676959

AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

04/08/2008 Mark: THE APEX PROJECT **\$#:**76676959

77296515 Ampak Packaging LLC

04/08/2008 Mark: APEX 7000 S#:77296515

Apex Stores, LLC

Apex Stores, LLC

	, -	
77296516 04/08/2008	Ampak Packaging LLC  Mark: APEX 9000 S#:77296516	Apex Stores, LLC
77301996 03/06/2008	American Multi-Cinema, Inc.  Mark: QUICKUP S#:77301996	Apex Stores, LLC
77302028 03/06/2008	American Multi-Cinema, Inc.  Mark: QUICKUP S#:77302028	Apex Stores, LLC
77201327 02/26/2008	Alien Apex Resort, Inc.  Mark: ALIEN APEX RESORT S#:77201327	Apex Stores, LLC
78804345 02/26/2008	Munters Corporation  Mark: APEX <b>5#:</b> 78804345	Apex Stores, LLC
77233385 02/05/2008	Apex Energy Solutions of Indiana, LLC  Mark: APEX ENERGY SOLUTIONS  S#:77233385	Apex Stores, LLC
77233390 02/05/2008	Apex Energy Solutions of Indiana, LLC  Mark: APEX ENERGY SOLUTIONS  S#:77233390	Apex Stores, LLC
78928052 02/04/2008		Apex Stores, LLC  Mark: APEX COMPANIES <b>S#:</b> 78928052
77031538 12/27/2007	Apex Electronic Data Interchange, Inc.  Mark: APEX EDI <b>\$#:</b> 77031538	Apex Stores, LLC
77044533 12/27/2007	Lawrence, Nick Mark: APEX ALARM S#:77044533	Apex Stores, LLC
77203191 12/27/2007	Entertainment Centers of America, LLC  Mark: APEX CONFERENCE & KARTING CENTER <b>\$#:</b> 77203191	Apex Stores, LLC
77220632 12/27/2007	ADCAA, L.L.C.  Mark: APEX DENTAL MILLING <b>S#:</b> 77220632	Apex Stores, LLC
78665531 12/27/2007	Dycom Identity, LLC  Mark: APEX DIGITAL, LLC <b>S#:</b> 78665531	Apex Stores, LLC
<u>78665536</u> 12/27/2007	Dycom Identity, LLC  Mark: APEX DIGITAL <b>S#</b> :78665536	Apex Stores, LLC
7 <u>8665688</u> 12/27/2007	Dycom Identity, LLC Mark: APEX <b>\$#:</b> 78665688	Apex Stores, LLC
	Apex Mills Corp.  Mark: APEX MILLS S#:78706549  R#:3129631	Apex Stores, LLC  Mark: APEX \$#:74430251 R#:1847961  Mark: APEX \$#:74529131 R#:2155905  Mark: APEX ONLINE \$#:75781411  R#:2562812  Mark: APEX MALL \$#:75836787 R#:2657639  Mark: APEX STORES \$#:75781412  R#:2443933  Mark: APEX ADVANTAGE \$#:78319107  R#:2918976  Mark: APEX COMPANIES \$#:78928036  R#:3244685
11/01/2007	Apex Automobile Parts, Inc.  Mark: APEXAUTO.COM S#:76093775  R#:2657874	Apex Stores, LLC  Mark: APEX \$#:74430251 R#:1847961  Mark: APEX \$#:74529131 R#:2155905  Mark: APEX ONLINE \$#:75781411  R#:2562812  Mark: APEX MALL \$#:75836787 R#:2657639  Mark: APEX STORES \$#:75781412  R#:2443933  Mark: APEX ADVANTAGE \$#:78319107

R#:2918976

Page 3 of 3

Mark: APEX COMPANIES S#:78928036

R#:3244685

Results as of 08/19/2008 06:55 PM

Search again

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**EXHIBIT P** 



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## TTABVUE. Trademark Trial and Appeal Board Inquiry System

v1.4

## **Summary**

**Query:** Party Name is: APEX, LLC **and** Proceeding Status is: ALL

**Number of results: 22** 

Proceeding Filing Date	• **	Plaintiff(s), Property(ies)
	Alien Apex Resort, Inc.  Mark: ALIEN APEX RESORT S#:77201327	Apex, LLC Mark: APEX S#:74430251 R#:1847961 Mark: APEX S#:74529131 R#:2155905 Mark: APEX ONLINE S#:75781411 R#:2562812 Mark: APEX MALL S#:75836787 R#:2657639 Mark: APEX STORES S#:75781412 R#:2443933 Mark: APEX ADVANTAGE S#:78319107 R#:2918976 Mark: APEX COMPANIES S#:78928036 R#:3244685 Mark: APEX COMPANIES S#:78928010 R#:3356317
	RAWLINGS SPORTING GOODS COMPANY, INC.  Mark: APEX S#:76292805 R#:2746052	Apex, LLC Mark: APEX S#:74430251 R#:1847961 Mark: APEX S#:74529131 R#:2155905 Mark: APEX ONLINE S#:75781411 R#:2562812 Mark: APEX MALL S#:75836787 R#:2657639 Mark: APEX STORES S#:75781412 R#:2443933 Mark: APEX ADVANTAGE S#:78319107 R#:2918976 Mark: APEX COMPANIES S#:78928036 R#:3244685 Mark: APEX COMPANIES S#:78928010 R#:3356317
	Deutsche Bank Securities Inc.  Mark: DB APEX S#:77260716	Apex, LLC
	APEX SKYPARK  Mark: APEX SKYPARK S#:77340137	Apex, LLC
	Fujitec America, Inc.  Mark: HSA-APEX S#:76208838 R#:2743343	Apex, LLC  Mark: APEX S#:74430251 R#:1847961  Mark: APEX S#:74529131 R#:2155905
	AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION  Mark: THE APEX PROJECT S#:76676959	Apex, LLC
	Mark: APEX 7000 <b>S#:</b> 77296515	Apex, LLC  Mark: APEX S#:74430251 R#:1847961  Mark: APEX S#:74529131 R#:2155905  Mark: APEX ONLINE S#:75781411  R#:2562812

Mark: APEX MALL S#:75836787 R#:2657639

Mark: APEX STORES **\$#:**75781412

		R#:2443933 Mark: APEX ADVANTAGE S#:78319107 R#:2918976 Mark: APEX COMPANIES S#:78928036 R#:3244685 Mark: APEX COMPANIES S#:78928010 R#:3356317
77279694 Min, Mod 07/15/2008 <b>Mark:</b> A	on Ki \ I C AND APEX IVY <b>S#:</b> 77279694	Apex, LLC
77275387 Apexone 06/30/2008 <b>Mark:</b> A	e Microeletronics Ltd. S#:77275387	Apex, LLC
06/28/2008 Mark: C	n Multi-Cinema, Inc. QUICKUP <b>S#:</b> 77301996 QUICKUP <b>S#:</b> 77302028	Apex, LLC
91184717 Munters 06/18/2008 <b>Mark:</b> A	Corporation PEX <b>S#:</b> 78804345	APEX, LLC Mark: APEX ONLINE \$#:75781411 R#:2562812 Mark: APEX \$\$#:74430251 R#:1847961 Mark: APEX \$\$#:74529131 R#:2155905 Mark: APEX MALL \$\$#:75836787 R#:2657639 Mark: APEX STORES \$\$#:75781412 R#:2443933 Mark: APEX COMPANIES \$\$#:78928010 R#:3356317 Mark: APEX COMPANIES \$\$#:78928036 R#:3244685 Mark: APEX ADVANTAGE \$\$#:78319107 R#:2918976
	Y SYSTEMS, INCORPORATED PEX <b>S#:</b> 76374641 <b>R#:</b> 2726681	Apex, LLC Mark: APEX S#:74430251 R#:1847961
- Annual Control of the Control of t	ARNING INC. IPEX LEARNING <b>S#:</b> 75853503 4678	Apex, LLC  Mark: APEX S#:74430251 R#:1847961  Mark: APEX S#:74529131 R#:2155905  Mark: APEX ONLINE S#:75781411  R#:2562812  Mark: APEX MALL S#:75836787 R#:2657639  Mark: APEX STORES S#:75781412  R#:2443933  Mark: APEX ADVANTAGE S#:78319107  R#:2918976  Mark: APEX COMPANIES S#:78928036  R#:3244685  Mark: APEX COMPANIES S#:78928010  R#:3356317
	ta Services, Inc. PEX COVANTAGE <b>S#:</b> 76676050	Apex, LLC
	vers, Inc PEX PAVERS <b>S#:</b> 77243433	Apex, LLC
06/03/2008 Mark: A	otechnology Corp. PEX BIOTECHNOLOGY CORP 57260 <b>R#:</b> 2720410	Apex, LLC
05/28/2008 HEAL TH	AMERICAN COMPANY FOR LIFE AND I INSURANCE DDVANTAGE <b>S#:</b> 78831223	Apex, LLC
92049371 AAPEX E 05/20/2008 <b>Mark:</b> A	Electronics Inc. APEX <b>S#:</b> 78132142 <b>R#:</b> 2717605	Apex, LLC  Mark: APEX S#:74430251 R#:1847961  Mark: APEX S#:74529131 R#:2155905

Mark: APEX ONLINE S#:75781411

**R#:**2562812

Mark: APEX MALL S#:75836787 R#:2657639

Mark: APEX STORES **\$#:**75781412

R#:2443933

Mark: APEX ADVANTAGE S#:78319107

R#:2918976

Mark: APEX COMPANIES S#:78928036

R#:3244685

Mark: APEX COMPANIES S#:78928010

**R#:**3356317

92049380 Micro-Ear Technology, Inc.

05/20/2008 Mark: APEX S#:76441166 R#:2717489

Apex, LLC

Mark: APEX S#:74430251 R#:1847961 Mark: APEX **S#**:74529131 **R#**:2155905 Mark: APEX ONLINE **S#:**75781411

R#:2562812

Mark: APEX MALL S#:75836787 R#:2657639

Mark: APEX STORES **S#:**75781412

R#:2443933

Mark: APEX ADVANTAGE S#:78319107

R#:2918976

Mark: APEX COMPANIES S#:78928036

R#:3244685

Mark: APEX COMPANIES S#:78928010

R#:3356317

77073352 Robert A. Toigo Foundation

05/06/2008 Mark: TOIGO APEX ADVANCING

PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE S#:77073352

77163873 Life BioScience, Inc.

05/06/2008 Mark: APEX S#:77163873

77340132 APEX SKYPARK

05/06/2008 Mark: APEX SKYPARK S#:77340132

Apex, LLC

Apex, LLC

Apex, LLC

Results as of 08/19/2008 06:57 PM

Search again

| .HOME | INDEX | SEARCH | eBUSINESS | CONTACT US | PRIVACY STATEMENT

EXHIBIT Q

#### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF RHODE ISLAND

APEX, LLC, : APEX AT HOME, LLC, :

Plaintiffs,

\_\_\_,

v. : CA 08-169 ML

:

24 HOUR FITNESS USA, INC., : Defendant. :

#### REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION

David L. Martin, United States Magistrate Judge

Before the Court is Defendant 24 Hour Fitness' Motion to Dismiss, or Alternatively, Stay Proceedings Pursuant to Rule 12(B)(3) and 28 U.S.C. § 1406(a) (Doc. #14) ("Motion to Dismiss or Stay" or "Motion"). The Motion has been referred to me for preliminary review, findings, and recommended disposition pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(B). A hearing was conducted on August 7, 2008. For the reasons stated herein, I recommend that the Motion be granted to the extent that it seeks to stay proceedings pending a determination by the United States District Court for the Northern District of California that a prior action filed in that district, involving essentially the same parties and similar issues, should proceed.

#### **Facts**

This is an action for trademark infringement and related claims brought by two Rhode Island companies against a California corporation. Plaintiffs Apex, LLC, and Apex At Home, LLC ("Plaintiffs"), filed this action on May 5, 2008, against Defendant 24 Hour Fitness USA, Inc. ("24 Hour Fitness" or "Defendant"). Plaintiffs allege that 24 Hour Fitness is infringing their registered Apex trademarks by and through the activities of 24 Hour Fitness' wholly owned subsidiary, Apex

Case 1:08-cv-00169-ML-DLM Document 29

Document 29 Filed 08/15/2008 Page 2 of 7

Fitness, Inc. ("Apex Fitness").

By the instant Motion, 24 Hour Fitness seeks to dismiss or stay this action because it filed a complaint for a declaratory judgment in the Northern District of California (the "California Action") on March 27, 2008. In the California action, 24 Hour Fitness seeks a declaration that its registration and use of trademarks containing the word "Apex" do not infringe any of Plaintiffs' trademarks. Having filed the California action almost six weeks before Plaintiffs filed this action, 24 Hour Fitness contends that application of the "first-filed rule"<sup>2</sup>

When 24 Hour Fitness filed the California Action on March 27, 2008, the trademarks that are the subject of the instant action were owned by Apex Stores, LLC. Subsequently, the trademarks were transferred from Apex Stores, LLC, to Apex, LLC. Following this transfer, 24 Hour Fitness amended the California complaint to add Apex, LLC, and Apex At Home, LLC, as defendants. 24 Hour Fitness also alleged in its amended complaint that the three defendants (Apex Stores, LLC; Apex, LLC; and Apex At Home, LLC) are effectively the same entity. It notes that the Rhode Island Secretary of State Corporations Division lists them as having the same corporate address and agent.

In the interest of exactness, "Plaintiffs" as used in this Report and Recommendation ("R&R") with reference to the California action includes all three Apex entities (Apex Stores, LLC; Apex, LLC; and Apex at Home, LLC). However, "Plaintiffs" as used herein with reference to the instant Rhode Island action includes only Apex, LLC, and Apex At Home, LLC.

<sup>2 &</sup>quot;'[T]he first-filed rule' is an equitable doctrine of venue selection followed universally; 'where identical actions are proceeding concurrently in two federal courts ... the first filed action is generally preferred in a choice-of-venue decision.'" Cruz v. Hartford Cas. Ins. Co., C.A. No. 05-38S, 2005 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 9924, at \*4 (D.R.I. May 20, 2005) (quoting Feinstein v Brown, 304 F.Supp.2d 279, 280-81 (D.R.I. 2004) (quoting Cianbro Corp. v. Curran-Lavoie, Inc., 814 F.2d 7, 11, (1st Cir. 1987); accord Mediostream, Inc. v. Priddis Music, Inc., No. C 07-2127 PJH, 2007 WL 2790688, at \*2 (N.D. Cal. Sept. 24, 2007) ("The 'first-to-file' rule is a generally recognized doctrine of federal comity which permits a district court to decline jurisdiction over an action when a complaint involving the same parties and issues has already been filed in another district."); see also Cruz, 2005 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 9924, at \*4 (explaining that there are exceptions to the rule and that the presumption may be overcome by a showing that the first-filed case constituted an

requires that this action be dismissed or stayed.

Plaintiffs object, contending that special circumstances are present which render the "first-filed rule" inapplicable and justify giving priority to this second filed action. particular, Plaintiffs contend that the California action is an anticipatory suit which 24 Four Fitness filed as a forum shopping tactic. Plaintiffs note that 24 Hour Fitness did not serve or otherwise notify them of the California action until after Plaintiffs had filed and served 24 Hour Fitness with their Complaint. They assert that 24 Hour Fitness acted in bad faith by filing the suit while the parties were engaged in settlement discussions. Plaintiffs also argue that the instant action is broader than the California action and dispute 24 Hour Fitness' contention that Plaintiffs' claims in the Rhode Island action are compulsory counterclaims which must be asserted in the California action. Lastly, Plaintiffs argue that the balance of convenience factors favors the second filed action.

Plaintiffs have moved to dismiss the California Action on the ground that there was no ripe and legitimate "case or controversy" between the parties at the time 24 Hour Fitness filed that action. See M.D. Beauty, Inc. v. Gross, No. C03-3082 SBA, 2003 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 27257, at \*8-9 (N.D. Cal. Oct. 27, 2003) ("if a declaratory plaintiff is not in reasonable apprehension of a suit, then a court may not exercise jurisdiction because there is no case or controversy") (citing 28 U.S.C. § 2201). In support of this argument, Plaintiffs stress that "throughout the parties' settlement discussions, Plaintiffs never explicitly or implicitly threatened to sue 24 Hour Fitness." Memorandum of Law in Support of Plaintiffs' Objection to Defendant's Motion to Dismiss, or Alternatively, Stay

improper anticipatory filing).

Proceedings ("Plaintiffs' Mem.") at 13. Plaintiffs' motion to dismiss is scheduled to be heard on September 9, 2008, by the California federal court.

#### Discussion

The path which this Court should follow relative to the instant Motion was clearly stated by District Judge William E. Smith in Cruz v. Hartford Casualty Insurance Co., C.A. No. 05-38S, 2005 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 9924 (D.R.I. May 20, 2005). the plaintiff similarly argued that a previously filed declaratory judgment action in Texas was an improper anticipatory filing by the defendant and that the balance of convenience favored Rhode Island over Texas as the forum. See id. at \*7. Although Judge Smith found that the plaintiff's anticipatory filing argument was "compelling," id., and that the plaintiff's choice of forum, the convenience of the parties, and the state's interest (the underlying tort had occurred in Rhode Island) all favored that the case be heard in Rhode Island, Judge Smith deferred to the Texas court the ultimate decision on whether an exception to the first-filed rule applied. See id. at \*8. In doing so, he explained that "case law indicates that the court in which the first-filed case was brought decides the question of whether or not the first-filed rule, or alternatively, an exception to the first-filed rule, applies." Id. (quoting Ontel Prods, Inc. v. Project Strategies Corp., 899 F.Supp. 1144, 1150 n.9 (S.D.N.Y. 1995)).

Other courts have also recognized that the determination of which action should proceed should be made by the court where the first action is filed.

Once the likelihood of substantial overlap between ... two suits [has] been demonstrated, it [is] no longer up to the [second court] to resolve the question of whether both should be allowed to proceed. By virtue of its prior jurisdiction over the common subject matter ... the

ultimate determination of whether there actually [is] substantial overlap requiring consolidation ... belong[s] to [the first court]."

Boston & Maine Corp. v. United Transp. Union, 110 F.R.D. 322, 329 (D. Mass. 1986) (quoting West Gulf Mar. Ass'n v. ILA Deep Sea Local 24, 751 F.2d 721, 730 (5th Cir. 1985) (quoting Mann Mfg. Inc. v. Hortex Inc., 439 F.2d 403, 405 (5th Cir. 1971))) (alterations in original); see also Best Western Int'l, Inc. v. Mahroom, No. CV 07-827-PHX-JAT, 2007 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 32969, at \*11-12 (D. Ariz. May 3, 2007) (finding "no reason to deviate from the normal rule ... that the first-filed court should consider the exceptions to the first-to-file rule"); Gemco Latinoamerica, Inc. v. Seiko Time Corp., 623 F. Supp. 912, 916 (D.P.R. 1985) ("the district court hearing the first-filed action should determine whether special circumstances dictate that the first action be dismissed in favor of a later-filed action") (quoting Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette v. Los Angles County, 542 F. Supp. 1317, 1321 (S.D.N.Y. 1982)). The late Senior District Judge Raymond J. Pettine of this Court cited this case law in staying a second filed Rhode Island action until the federal district court for the Northern District of Ohio finally adjudicated a first filed action or chose to refrain from exercising its jurisdiction over that action. See SW Indus., Inc. v. Aetna Cas. & Sur. Co., 653 F.Supp. 631, 639 (D.R.I. 1987) (citing West Gulf Mar. Ass'n, Gemco Latinoamerica, Inc., and Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette as "cases holding that the decision as to which forum is more appropriate is a prerogative of the court hearing the first-filed action").

Here the California action and the Rhode Island action are closely related. They involve essentially the same parties and the same or closely related claims. Cf. Supervalu Inc. v. Executive Dev. Sys., Inc., Case No. CV-06-329-S-BLW, 2007 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 3141, at \*2 (D. Idaho Jan. 12, 2007) (stating that the

Case 1:08-cv-00169-ML-DLM Document 2

Document 29 Filed 08/15/2008 F

Page 6 of 7

parties need not be identical for application of the first-to-file rule, but there must be similarity or substantial overlap). Here there is the danger of conflicting judicial resolutions were this Court to decide the instant Motion. If it denies the Motion and the California court denies Plaintiffs' motion to dismiss, the result will be that there will be two actions, nearly mirror images, being litigated in two different federal courts. In addition, principles of comity and consistency favor allowing the court which has the first filed action before it to consider whether there are special circumstances which warrant an exception to the first-filed rule. Cf. Gemco Latinoamerica, Inc., 623 F.Supp. at 916 ("Absent such a rule, there would exist the possibility of conflicting judicial resolutions as well as a duplication of judicial efforts.").

It is true that to date Plaintiffs have only sought to have the California action dismissed and have not filed a motion to transfer venue to this district. However, Plaintiffs' contention that the first-filed rule does not apply because of special circumstances and because the balance of convenience favors litigating the dispute in Rhode Island clearly would provide a basis for moving to transfer venue. Such a motion would raise directly before the California court the arguments which Apex has made in opposing the instant Motion. This Court assumes that if Plaintiffs' motion to dismiss the California action is denied, they will file a motion to transfer venue. Alternatively, Plaintiffs could move to supplement their existing motion to dismiss by requesting as alternative relief that the declaratory judgment action be transferred to this Court for the reasons Plaintiffs have advanced in opposition to the instant Motion.

In any case, this Magistrate Judge is persuaded that it would be unwise and inappropriate for this Court to decide whether an exception to the first-to-file rule should be made.

Case 4:08-cv-01681-SBA Document 28-18 Filed 08/21/2008 Page 8 of 8
Case 1:08-cv-00169-ML-DLM Document 29 Filed 08/15/2008 Page 7 of 7

That decision should be made by the California federal court.

#### Conclusion

Accordingly, for the reasons stated above, I recommend that the Motion to Dismiss or Stay be granted to the extent that proceedings in this action be stayed pending a determination by the United States District Court for the Northern District of California whether the prior filed action should proceed. Any objections to this Report and Recommendation must be specific and must be filed with the Clerk of Court within ten (10) days of its receipt. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 72(b); DRI LR Cv 72(d). Failure to file specific objections in a timely manner constitutes waiver of the right to review by the district court and of the right to appeal the district court's decision. See United States v. Valencia-Copete, 792 F.2d 4, 6 (1st Cir. 1986); Park Motor Mart, Inc. v. Ford Motor Co., 616 F.2d 603, 605 (1st Cir. 1980).

/s/ David L. Martin
DAVID L. MARTIN
United States Magistrate Judge
August 15, 2008